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# REBUILDING AGRICULTURAL MARKETS PROGRAM (RAMP)

QUARTERLY REPORT  
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2006 (FIRST QUARTER)

**30 April 2006**

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# REBUILDING AGRICULTURAL MARKETS PROGRAM (RAMP)

## QUARTERLY REPORT

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2006 (1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER, 2006)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On March 29, 2006, the Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) facilitated a showcase to present the collaborative achievements of the Ministry of Agriculture (MAF) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The event demonstrated to representatives of Afghanistan's Ministries, the international donor community, development partners, and the media how RAMP's activities will collectively contribute more than \$1.6 billion to the national economy. The event included speeches from his Excellency Minister Obaidullah Ramin and USAID Mission Director Alonzo Fulgham. After the presentations, more than 400 attendees toured an interactive exhibition where they met with RAMP partners and beneficiaries to discuss individual projects and sampled agricultural products produced through the program. The showcase proved to be a tremendous success, generating significant media attention and drawing interest from other development projects working in Afghanistan's agriculture sector.

At RAMP's showcase, Minister Ramin emphasized the vital role that the private sector will play in ensuring the sustainability of agriculture development programs. In this spirit, RAMP has made great strides this quarter in providing technical assistance to associations and small enterprises in constructing charters and by-laws and officially registering them as businesses with the appropriate bodies of the Government of Afghanistan (GOA). RAMP dedicated considerable efforts in developing cost-sharing mechanisms and providing business development services so private entrepreneurs and associations can effectively own and manage greenhouses, refrigerated storage facilities, and processing plants. The establishment and strengthening of these associations and businesses will have a lasting impact on Afghanistan's agricultural economy, after RAMP's period of performance concludes.

RAMP's Monitoring and Evaluation (M+E) department continued to assess the economic impact of individual projects, and their collective contributions in increasing the marketable output of the program's priority commodity groups. RAMP's infrastructure projects have improved irrigation to over 300,000 hectares of farmland and rehabilitated 426 kilometers of farm-to-market roads. Irrigation and road projects will contribute \$950 and \$30 million respectively in increased crop yields, and reduced transportation costs and spoilage rates. Additionally, RAMP's interventions in the value chains of its target commodity groups will generate the following economic impact:

- Livestock and Poultry Production and Treatment - \$330 million
- Food Grain Production - \$250 million
- Vegetable Production and Processing - \$30 million
- Fresh and Dried Fruit Marketing - \$26 million
- Nut Marketing – \$17 million

In February 2006, RAMP submitted to USAID its final yearly work plan, describing the activities that RAMP staff and its implementing partners will carry out in the program's remaining months. During the first quarter of 2006, RAMP sustained an \$8 million budget cut to its prime contract. Although this cut did not disrupt the program as a whole, it did subsequently require project managers to reduce the ceiling price of 16 active job orders. During the second quarter of 2006, RAMP will be modifying the affected subcontracts and grants accordingly to reflect the budget cut.

Although during the next quarter RAMP will be preparing for administrative-closeout, the program is still implementing and monitoring 23 infrastructure, agriculture technology, rural finance and institutional capacity building activities that are scheduled to conclude by the end of June 2006. In February 2006, RAMP began construction on Afghanistan's largest irrigation project in 40 years – the Samar Kandian Weir, spanning cross the Balkhab River in Balkh (Job Order 53). This is a massive undertaking, that once completed will provide improved irrigation to approximately 130,000 hectares of farmland, impacting neighboring communities for many generations to come. The project has attracted interest from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which is planning to contribute funding to construct complementary irrigation structures (headworks and feeder canals) along RAMP's completed work.

Working in close collaboration with the USAID-funded Alternative Livelihood Programs (ALP/E/S/N) based in Nangarhar, Hilmand and Badakhshan, RAMP coordinated the Agriculture Market Production Support (AMPS) activities, which distributed seed and fertilizer to 300,000 farmer beneficiaries (Job Order 54). RAMP's role in AMPS was to procure and transfer the vouchers to each of the ALP regions (100,000 to each), facilitate voucher distribution workshops, and develop agriculture extension material for the high-value crop seeds distributed (tomato, okra, cucumber, eggplant sweet pepper, watermelon, onion, potato, carrot & cauliflower). RAMP facilitated the review and approval of all newly prepared agriculture extension material by the MAF Extension Department, and ensured that the materials carried appropriate branding and alternative livelihood messages.

RAMP's rural finance partners continued to market previously unavailable financial service packages to micro-, small- and medium- entrepreneurs (SME). To date, the program has disbursed 28,118 micro-loans, 17 SME loans, provided business development assistance to 53 agri-businesses, and contributed to the establishment of Afghanistan's first venture capital fund. RAMP has demonstrated to financial institutions that the risks associated with investing in agriculture are manageable, and that agriculture lending is an essential component in strengthening the national economy.

RAMP's capacity-building project continues to support and assist in the modernization and improvement of MAF management and operations. In addition to providing ongoing technical assistance to Ministry's Communications and Agriculture Extension Departments, RAMP advisors worked with Minister Ramin's staff in editing the Ministry's *Master Plan*, determining appropriate use of RAMP-constructed market collection centers, and evaluating new projects in consideration of national strategic objectives for the agriculture sector. In support of MAF's mandate regarding horticulture, RAMP has provided state of the art equipment to several processing facilities in the country, and renovated product quality testing facilities to promote Afghan agricultural exports.

This document illustrates the progress that RAMP/Chemonics has made over January, February and March of 2006 – managing 54 Job Orders (subcontracts and grants). The first sections highlight the major accomplishments of RAMP's three primary components – Infrastructure, Agriculture Technology and Market Development, and Rural Financial services. Following these management reports is a table that clearly illustrates by province where RAMP is implementing its activities. The document then provides up-to-date summaries of each Job Order in RAMP's portfolio, in chronological order in which they were issued. It is RAMP's intention that these summaries can easily be distributed by USAID to partners in Afghanistan's government and international donor community who are interested in RAMP's activities nation-wide.

Respectfully Submitted,

Louis Faoro  
RAMP/Chemonics  
Chief of Party

## INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT REPORT

Since the program's beginning, RAMP has designed, implemented and monitored 31 road, bridge, irrigation, drainage and river diversion projects in 9 provinces. By March 31, 2006, the program's partners had completed 28 of these projects, achieving the following illustrative results:

- **475 kilometers of farm to market roads rehabilitated**
- **605 kilometers of canals/drains cleaned**
- **340 irrigation structures constructed/rehabilitated**
- **341,624 hectares of land receiving improved irrigation**
- **145 market collection centers constructed**
- **1 water users association (WUA) established, Hirat**

During this quarter, RAMP partners rehabilitated 55 kilometers of farm-to-market roads in Kunduz, Balkh and Nangarhar, and progress on irrigation projects have led to increased access to water and improved drainage to 150,000 additional hectares of farmland in Nangarhar, Baghlan, Hirat and Balkh. RAMP carried out minor activities in several other regions including the provision of technical advice to PRTs contemplating the construction of water harvesting and flood protection structures, and market collection centers and warehouses.

### Farm-to-Market Roads

This quarter RAMP's partners completed 55 kilometers of roads, which contribute to a cumulative total of 475 kilometers of farm-to-market roads rehabilitated. Currently, there are another 97 kilometers of road under construction. RAMP is well on track to rehabilitate its targeted 572 kilometers of road by the program's completion. Following are descriptions of RAMP road rehabilitation activities, categorized by province.

#### Nangarhar

Four local NGOs, HADF, DCG, AACC, and ABR continued work on rehabilitating approximately 90 kilometers of non-congruent roads. Collectively, they have finished 77 kilometers, and will complete the remaining by June 30, 2006. (Job Order 36, 38)

#### Balkh

KRA and PRB completed construction of structures along the strategic 43-kilometer long Mazar-i-Sherif to the Sholgera road, and they continue to work on the sub-bases and drainage works. This road segment connects agriculture production regions to processing centers on the outskirts of the capital. (Job Order 38)

#### Kunduz

KRA completed construction of structures and rehabilitated 8 kilometers of road near Aliabad. (Job Order 49)

#### Hirat

BDCIS, an Afghan NGO, completed construction of 6 bridges that span the Injil and Guzara canals. (Job Order 27)

EACC, a local Hirat contractor, continued with construction of four bridges that span the Guzara Canal. Two bridges were completed and the other two yet needed only railings, backfill, cleanup and some drainage wasteway work. (Job Order 27)



## **Irrigation and Drainage**

### **Nangarhar**

IF Hope completed dredging 115 kilometers of drains in the Kama Region, in the service area of the Nangarhar Valley Development Authority (NVDA). IF Hope will construct 20 water control structures along the drain in the next quarter. (Job Order 35)

### **Balkh**

NESPAK continued to provide consulting engineering services for the design and preparation of tender documents for construction of 3 weirs across the Balkhab River and for the construction of feeder canals and 8 head regulators.

Through a competitive bidding process, RAMP selected GRC to construct a weir across the Balkhab River located near the village of Samar Kandian. RAMP designed the weir to serve four canals (Chimtal, Dawlatabad, Abdullah and Mushtaq). GRC mobilized, built a camp, and accomplished some 30 percent of the construction work during the quarter.

Coincidentally with recognition that the RAMP budget falls short of being adequate for all the requested works, the ADB decided to accelerate its construction program within canal commands of Balkh Province. An agreement was reached that RAMP will provide to ADB, through its designer, NESPAK, final designs and contract documents for the feeder canal and headworks associated with the Samar Kandian Weir. RAMP will also provide to ADB designs for rehabilitation of works along the entire length of the Imam Sahib Canal system. Local organization HAFO drafted this design package and has submitted it to RAMP's infrastructure staff for review. (Job Order 53)

### **Hirat**

Rehabilitation of the Injil and Guzara canal systems in Hirat proceeded apace with: 1) the construction of clusters of structures (water dividers and canal intakes) along the Injil Canal, 2) replacement and repair of three aqueducts of the Guzara Canal, 3) construction of a structure that will exclude flood flows and high sediment loads from the Injil and Haft Qolb canals, and 4) the construction of a siphon that will pass the flow of the Injil Canal under the Band-e-Rig flood channel. (Job Order 27)

RAMP partner RAFA designed headworks to control flood flows and to exclude sediments from the Injil and Haft Qolb canals. This quarter, RAFA proceeded with construction of the diversion works and pouring concrete at the foundation of the structure. (Job Order 27)

DAI inventoried all water users and outlets of the Injil Canal for the establishment of a new Water User Association (WUA) in the region. RAMP facilitated elections in the upper, middle, and lower reaches of the canal and water users elected a 55-member General Assembly and an 11-member Management Board for the newly established WUA. DAI provided necessary technical assistance in developing charter, and in training the newly elected management board. (Job Order 44)

### **Baghlan**

By March 31, 2006, DAI had completed its work cleaning and rehabilitating the Ab Qul and Gurgurak Canals, and building diversion works on the Kunduz River to service these two canal commands. Due to RAMP budget cuts, the program cancelled the construction of river weirs, and in its stead conducted a survey of additional needed work for canal structures. RAMP anticipates that it will issue a small purchase order to a local contractor to complete minor additions to several partially built structures. (Job Order 43)

## **Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken**

The budget cut to RAMP's prime contract had a rippling effect throughout the infrastructure portfolio. Although RAMP did discontinue some activities and modify subcontracts/purchase orders accordingly, the program is still on track to reach all of its contractual targets by the end of June 2006.

RAMP did experience some difficulties in Hirat this quarter, where provincial and local authorities failed to secure clearance of water users and land owners for the construction of 120 water control structures in the Guzara Canal command.

RAMP maintains a policy to not begin building any structure for which there is not a signed agreement by the beneficiaries, stipulating that (1) they want the project and, (2) will support it during construction and after. Along the Guzara Canal there are approximately 146 legal water outlets and approximately 170 illegal outlets. Hirat's Governor, the Provincial Director of Irrigation and local authorities were unable to come to a consensus on which outlets should be built, and which should be closed. Therefore, RAMP terminated three contracts for the construction of water dividers, protection walls and outlets that it had just awarded to local contractors through a competitive bidding process.

Hundreds of water users gathered at the Governor of Hirat's office to protest the termination of this activity. Community members made threats to damage RAMP projects on-going along the Guzara Canal where RAMP partners are rebuilding and replacing aqueducts. RAMP authorized its implementing partners to increase security at project sites, as social unrest continued throughout the quarter.

## **AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Since the program's beginning RAMP's 29 agriculture technology and market development projects have collectively achieved the following illustrative results:

- **1,041,173 Farmers served by agriculture extension**
- **27,519 Women trained in poultry management**
- **266,271 Chickens distributed**
- **21 Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSE) established**
- **1,284 Crop demonstration plots established**
- **111 Greenhouses installed**
- **463 Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) established**
- **21,126,301 Vaccines and veterinary services delivered**
- **25 Agriculture students received Master Degrees**
- **1 Dehydration factory established, Parwan**
- **55 grower, processor, storage, trade associations organized**
- **25 Cold storage facilities procured (installation complete by end of program)**

Key accomplishments this quarter included increased investment by farmers, traders, and exporters. These investments have been in agricultural technologies, storage and processing facilities, market exploration and product testing laboratories and compliment RAMP partners' work in establishing strong agri-business and farmer and merchant associations. RAMP interventions in the livestock sector have led to more trained para-vets and women poultry producers in a greater number of districts. These individuals are making a significant impact on improving animal health nationwide and presenting new income generating activities for rural women.

In the first quarter of 2006, RAMP partners continued working to increase the marketable output of the following priority commodity groups:

### **Priority Commodity Group – Fresh Fruit**

RAMP partners provided technical assistance to farmers', traders', and exporters' associations who have installed (or are planning to) 35 units (~25 metric tons capacity) capable of cooling fresh fruits to near zero degrees Centigrade. RAMP partners developed business plans for operating these cold storage units, incorporating a payment mechanism where 50% of the cost is covered by contributions from the owners/operators. (Job Order 28)

RAMP's extension services, especially in pruning perennial fruit and nut trees, in the Shamali Plains, Kandahar, and Helmand have led to higher (~30%) productivity in the spring bloom. RAMP promoted the cultivation of the highest demanded grape varieties, Taifee and Shindokani, in the vineyards where low-valued kishmishi grapes are predominant. RAMP partners encouraged farmers to adopt especially the Taifee variety into their vineyards, and provided training in grafting the Taifee onto existing vines. Farmers have planted approximately 58 hectares of vineyards with Taifee cultivars. More than 45,000 cuttings of Shindokani grapes are being established at local private nurseries in the Shamali Plains. In Helmand and Kandahar, RAMP partners established 142 private fruit orchards (128,720 trees) on 61 hectares of farmers' land. RAMP activities have effectively demonstrated to farmers the effectiveness of cultivating properly budded fruit trees. (Job Order 29)

### **Priority Commodity Group – Dried Fruit and Nuts**

RAMP assisted traders and exporters in processing, product quality certifying, and exporting over 300 metric tons of high-quality red raisins to the Ukraine and Russia and 20 metric tons of green raisins to the Ukraine. Grit tests, along with aflatoxin and microbiological testing, are now routine tests (done at the RAMP assisted Raisin and Other Dried Fruit Export Institute of the Ministry of Commerce in Kabul and Kandahar) available to traders and exporters for certifying their dried fruit and nut products when shipping internationally.

The three RAMP-assisted, Nut Processing Associations in Balkh (Mazar-i-Sharif), Kabul, and Kandahar have nearly completed constructing buildings that will hold the nut (almond, walnut, and pistachio) processing lines. RAMP provided technical assistance in sourcing, procuring and installing processing equipment built in California and shipped to Afghanistan. (Job Order 29)

Over 4,300 farmers, including over 1,400 women, in Samargan and Parwan received training in winter pest-control spraying, pruning, and use of bees for pollination for increasing productivity of fruit and nut trees. RAMP established 39 more horticulture producer associations bringing the total to 55 associations. These associations include 1,899 members owning 208,252 trees with a productive capacity of 4,000 metric tons of almonds.

### **Priority Commodity Group – Fresh and Dried Vegetables**

RAMP assisted the shipment by the Parwan Dehydrates Company of two containers of dried turnips (about 30 mt) to the United Kingdom. Farmers in Parwan province were contracted to supply various vegetables, to the dehydrates factory in Charikar, which it will export to identified buyers in Europe. (Job Order 26)

Over 100 farmers in Helmand, Kandahar, Kunduz, Takhar, and Baghlan provinces have each contributed \$500-\$700 towards the cost of RAMP-demonstrated greenhouses. RAMP partners and other NGOs have supplemented these farmers with the remainder of the greenhouse costs. RAMP partners continued to provide technical assistance in managing the greenhouses and producing vegetables off season. Many of these farmers produced their first crop of greenhouse cucumbers and other vegetables and are very satisfied with the results and the off-season market prices. (Job Order 9)

Cold storage units purchased by farmer, trader, and exporter associations will be used for storing tomatoes and other vegetables for sale long after the peak harvest season. RAMP assisted in the construction and operation of 33 potato storages in productive potato growing provinces, such as, Ghazni, Parwan, and Bamyan. RAMP assistance led to the production, storage and marketing of hundreds of tons of virus-free (clean) seed potatoes. (Job Order 6)

## Priority Commodity Group – Livestock

RAMP funded Veterinary Field Units (VFUs) delivered approximately 3.77 million vaccinations, medications, and other veterinary services in 272 districts throughout Afghanistan. 170 para-vets received training at the Dutch Committee of Afghanistan's (DCA) Veterinary Training and Service Centers in Parwan (Charikar), Balkh (Mazar-i-Sharif), and Hirat. The project installed 38 solar powered refrigerators for vaccination storage in Kabul and Balkh, and procured an additional 180 more for future installations in VFUs. Over 16 million doses of various animal vaccines were purchased and over 3 million distributed through the RAMP-funded and established cold chain. (Job Order 13)

FAO provided poultry production training to 6,831 women in Kunduz, Parwan, Baghlan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Bamyān and Hirat provinces. The Poultry Producer Groups, including the 70 new ones, organized 4,309 technical sessions with more than 10,500 trained women in villages in these provinces. After training, women received 2,305 coops, 135 metric tons of poultry feed, and other inputs. The women participants sold over 871,000 eggs in regional markets. (Job Order 5)

Members of the Fish Farmers' Association in Kunduz constructed 20 private fish farms (averaging 0.6 hectares) and prepared their ponds for stocking improved varieties of fish fingerlings. RAMP is providing technical assistance to establish a private fish hatchery in Char Dara district of Baghlan.

## Priority Commodity Group – Wheat

GIA conducted a Masters' Trainers' Training program in Kunduz on post-harvest grain handling, storage, and management. The purpose of the training was to upgrade the knowledge and enhance the professional skills of twelve Management and Operations personnel of the Crop Producer Associations (CPA), Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSE), flour millers, and others involved in grain post-harvest, value-added activities. (Job Order 28)

The emergency locust control program in northern and western Afghanistan for 2006 is progressing smoothly. FAO and MAF Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) organizers and operators monitored the locust hatch and began spraying the locusts once hatching was observed. RAMP partners completed Sunn pest incident surveys in northern, western, and southern Afghanistan; all preparations were made for implementing the campaign, and training of farmers on mechanical control was started. (Job Order 50)

RAMP's positive results (higher yields and higher benefit : cost ratio) of direct seeding (no-till) of wheat on rain-fed areas in Kunduz has convinced 5 farmers in Kunduz to use direct seeding on 21 hectares of rain-fed land. (Job Order 8B)

## Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

As the many RAMP-assisted associations purchase and install modern storage, processing, and packaging equipment and machinery, the need for training in day-to-day operations of these technologies becomes tantamount. RAMP will continue to provide appropriate technical assistance until the end of the contract. Those trainers who received training in these technologies will then be expected to continue extension services at the expense of the associations or other donor projects.

Registering associations with the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Agriculture, and/or the Afghan Investment Support Agency (ASIA) of the Ministry of Commerce takes time and money. RAMP continues to assist newly formed associations in navigating procedures for filing necessary documents, preparing by-laws, electing executive officers and developing work/business plans together for submission to the Government of Afghanistan.

Pakistan has ruled out the provision of a land route for trade between India and Afghanistan, maintaining its two neighbors should make use of the Karachi port to trade with each other. RAMP is

continually emphasizing to the Afghanistan Government the trade policy reforms that are needed in order to allow Afghanistan traders and exporters to be more competitive.

The security situation in Helmand and Kandahar provinces has severely impacted the implementation of many extension activities that promote the adoption of improved technologies. To reach farmers, many activities have to be centralized in more secure environments.

## Looking Forward

From April to July 2006, RAMP will carry out the following activities:

- Continue promoting and technically assisting farmers in adapting the higher valued grape varieties into their vineyards in the Shamali Plains;
- Assist associations and entrepreneurs who are investing in cold storage units in developing business plans and in installing cold storage units;
- Assist associations in establishing by-laws and registering with the Government of Afghanistan.
- Organize the Parwan Farmers' Association and assist the Association in fulfilling its obligations to become a 40% owner of the Parwan Dehydrates Company;
- Complete all nut processing plants, install the processing lines, and train the nut processors on operating and maintaining the equipment and machinery;
- Continue assisting nut and fruit producers in building mutually-beneficial relationships (to improve the quality of the product delivered and the timing of the quantity delivered) with traders and exporters;
- Assist CPAs and VBSEs in storing and obtaining credit for their seed wheat;
- Modify the potato storages to allow for more efficient use of the storage space.

## RURAL FINANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT

As the RAMP rolls in to its final six months, the rural finance activities continued to increase the outreach of credit and business development services throughout Afghanistan. The following subsections provide a glimpse of the activities within the financial sector supported through RAMP funding. To date, RAMP's rural finance component has achieved the following illustrative results.

- **1,150 loan officers trained**
- **28,118 Micro-loans disbursed (\$100 - \$1,000)**
- **98% Micro-loan repayment rate**
- **18 SME loans disbursed (\$5,000 - \$500,000)**
- **77% SME loan repayment rate**
- **62 Agri-businesses provided with Business Development Services**

## Microfinance

Although RAMP funding for the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility - Afghanistan (MISFA) concluded in August 2005, the program continues to monitor the impact of the institution's activities. In the first quarter of 2006, MISFA reached a significant milestone, achieving semi-autonomous operational status within the Ministry of Finance (MoF). Since its inception, MISFA has been housed within the Ministry of Rural Reconstruction and Development (MRRD), as program designers recognized it was important to anchor the institution with a strong line Ministry in order to attract certain donor funding. Over the past year, RAMP has been working with MISFA to register it as an operationally independent organization – this process was nearly finalized by the end of March 2006. According to the new structure, MISFA will be a stand-alone organization with 100% ownership by the Ministry of Finance. However, MISFA retains the right to merge, liquidate or distribute dividends to a

company with similar objectives. In addition, the funds received by the microfinance institutions through MISFA would automatically convert to grants if MISFA closed their doors.

During the last quarter, an evaluation team spearheaded by the MRRD conducted an evaluation of microfinance institutions in Hirat Province. The consensus of the evaluation was that "...progress achieved (by the microfinance institutions) over the past 2 to 3 years has been good considering the difficult conditions in the country, the paucity of Afghan microfinance expertise, and the absence of any formal financial sector until 2004." Based on the interviews conducted with clients during this evaluation, there was a resounding theme such that most of them felt the microfinance loans were making a difference in their lives and improving their living conditions.

As of March 2006, the 12 active microfinance institutions had expanded to 18 Provinces with a cumulative total disbursement of \$61 million. This figure includes all the donor funds [USAID/RAMP, World Bank, CIDA, DFID, SIDA, NOVIB] provided to MISFA throughout all of the business sectors (not just agriculture). There continues to be a demand for microfinance loan products as this financial sector grows. More support from international donors will be needed to fuel the growth in this segment.

## **SME Lending**

RAMP partner financial institutions targeting small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) continued to expand their outreach during the past quarter. Afghanistan International Bank (AIB) approved two new loans to agricultural processors based in Hirat. One of the processors is making sugar cubes and the other is making biscuits. For these agricultural loans, AIB used their own capital to finance one loan and USAID/RAMP funding financed the other. By utilizing their own funds, AIB has demonstrated that agricultural loans can become part of the mainstream portfolio at the bank.

The Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC) also increased its portfolio with outstanding disbursements hovering around \$600,000. AFC spent this quarter concentrating on developing their operations and organizational structures. AFC expanded their presence and outreach to clients by opening a satellite office in Jalalabad, Nangarhar. To meet the financing demands of the company, AFC expanded their team to include a Risk Manager. The role of the Risk Manager is to work closely with the lending staff to increase their productivity while at the same time maintaining manageable risk levels.

Acap Partners opened the long anticipated Kabul office of the Afghanistan Renewal Fund in February 2006. The Fund Managers understand there are some credibility issues swirling around Kabul due to the gaps of time between the initial visits to potential investees until the Fund actually started operations. Based on this issue, the Fund will make strong headway in the next quarter to counteract the inordinate delay in implementation.

In the final months of RAMP, AFC will receive technical assistance from the program's rural finance department, to ensure The Fund is running at full operational capacity by the end of the contract. Unlike AIB that which a functioning bank, prepared carry-on operations beyond the duration of RAMP, The Fund is just getting started and will not be demonstrating any impact in the short-term. However, RAMP is confident that Acap Partners has enough resources, momentum and funding to keep them on course once their contract and grant funding through RAMP expires in June 2006.

## **Business Development Services**

Flag International, RAMP's Business Development Services provider, made tremendous headway during the quarter. Flag has worked directly with many of the beneficiaries of other RAMP activities implemented by RoP, GIA and Land of Lakes. Flag has facilitated presentations to financial institutions on behalf of 14 clients with credit needs of almost \$2M. In addition, Flag has provided basic business training to 62 agricultural entrepreneurs.

Through the efforts of Flag, the financial institutions have saved a tremendous amount of resources in gathering the due diligence for prospective clients. Flag has provided the institutions with a



reassurance that the clients will be able to make timely repayments based on the strength of their business plans. Flag's efforts will definitely be needed beyond the life of RAMP. Business development services are a requisite component in the years to come for both the clients and the financial institutions.

## SECURITY REPORT

The security situation throughout the country has generally deteriorated with large numbers of Anti - Government Elements (AGEs) having infiltrated into most regions. Throughout the first quarter of 2006, there was increased confrontation between AGEs and government and coalition forces. These contacts have continued to be in the form of shootings and IEDs. Numerous AGEs and coalition forces have been killed during this period; the threat of suicide bombings continued throughout the period.

### **Kabul**

Throughout the capital, there has been a number of high profile robberies carried out by people dressed as Afghan National Police (ANP). On each occasion there have been shots fired and individuals either injured or killed.

The main threat in the capital has remained IEDs and kidnapping of international workers for ransom. There have been a number of shootings between criminal elements and government forces.

The RAMP out-of-town movement policy, which includes a low-key Personal Security Detail (PSD) provided by Olive Security, continues. This security detail remains available to all members of staff traveling within the following regions; Kapisa, Kabul, Logar, Wardak, Ghazni, Parwan and Baghlan.

### **Balkh**

Balkh province has remained relatively benign during this period.

### **Hirat**

Hirat province has continued to be relatively quiet with regard to AGE activity. However, there was a certain amount of unrest following the publication of cartoons in the European Press deemed to be anti-Islamic. There were also inter-factional clashes between Shia and Sunni that accounted for a number of fatalities.

### **Hilmand and Kandahar**

The past quarter was particularly volatile in Hilmand and Kandahar. RAMP management has significantly reduced travel to these provinces, but implementing partners continue to carry out contractual activities.

## Risk and Risk Mitigation

RAMP policies with regard to security remain unchanged.

RAMP staff members ride in armored vehicles around Kabul whenever possible – particularly to those areas, such as Jalalabad road, which continue to receive regular threats of IEDs. Whenever traveling outside of Kabul, RAMP staff members are accompanied by armed escorts provided by Olive Security.

The main area of concern remains that of kidnapping. Historically the kidnappings of foreigners that have taken place in Afghanistan have been done at night. The requirement for all staff to adhere to the curfew of 22:00 hrs is essential. The requirement for all staff to travel in RAMP vehicles at night is also essential. There are no exceptions to these requirements



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## Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP) Activities by Province March 2006

To learn more about any of these individual projects, please contact: [info@ramp-af.com](mailto:info@ramp-af.com)

Baghlan
<b>Irrigation and Road Rehabilitation, JO#03- Project Completed.</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) cleaned, widened and de-silted 51 km of canals in drains, and rehabilitated 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads in Baghlan.
<b>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 6 greenhouses in Baghlan.
<b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed.</b> In 2004, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan, consisting of ground spraying of Moroccan Locust hopper bands with Ultra Low Volume (ULV) pesticides, and training control organisers who will in turn approach local communities affected by locusts to undertake ground spraying operations in a safe and environmentally considerate manner.
<b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO# 31: – Project Completed.</b> In 2004, GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys.
<b>Canal Rehabilitation in Baghlan, JO#43: -</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) is cleaning and de-silting 53 km of canals of the Gurgurack and Ab Qul irrigations systems. DAI is also constructing 95 water control structures and 25 culverts/bridges along the canals.
<b>Northern Afghanistan Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control Program; JO#50: -</b> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted emergency pest control activities based on egg bed surveys conducted in 8 districts of Baghlan province. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts in 2006 and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005. Through 2006, FAO will continue to implement locust and Sunn pest control campaigns, and provide technical assistance to increase the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD).



Balkh
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#17: - Project Completed.</b> Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation (AREC) rehabilitated 96.9 km of road in Balkh province, including the construction of culverts and other necessary road structures, improving main transportation routes leading to the main bazaar and local markets.</p>
<p><b>Grape and Nut Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:-</b> Roots of Peace (RoP) is providing technical assistance in nut production and marketing and establishing nut production, processing and marketing associations throughout central Balkh. The project is importing nut processing equipment and installing processing lines for the associations.</p>
<p><b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed.</b> In 2004, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan, consisting of ground spraying of Moroccan Locust hopper bands with Ultra Low Volume (ULV) pesticides, and training control organisers who will in turn approach local communities affected by locusts to undertake ground spraying operations in a safe and environmentally considerate manner.</p>
<p><b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO# 31: – Project Completed.</b> In 2004, GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#38:</b> Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB) (working with KRA) is rehabilitating 22 km of roadway that carries traffic from Kod Barq toward Sholgera City in Sholgera district of Balkh province.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Balkh, JO#38:</b> Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA) (working with PRB) is rehabilitating 19.775 km of roadway and structures from kilometer 22 to kilometer 41.8 of the road that carries traffic from Kod Barq toward Sholgera City in Sholgera District of Balkh Province.</p>
<p><b>Northern Afghanistan Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control Program; JO#50:</b> - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted emergency pest control activities based on egg bed surveys conducted in 8 districts of Baghlan province. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts in 2006 and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005. Through 2006, FAO will continue to implement locust and Sunn pest control campaigns, and provide technical assistance to increase the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD).</p>
<p><b>Balkh Irrigation System Rehabilitation: Survey and Design Component, JO#53: - Project Completed.</b> Helping Afghan Farmers Organization (HAFO) and National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAC) conducted a range irrigation surveys and designed irrigation structures in Balkh province. The deliverables produced through this purchase order and subcontract contributed to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted under JO#53.</p>
<p><b>Balkh Irrigation System Rehabilitation: Contruction Component, JO#53:</b> - Ghulam Rasul and Company (GRC) is constructing the Samar Kandian cross river weir, head regulators for control of four canals and ancillary structures on the Balkhab River near Samar Kandian village i of Balkh province. This is the largest irrigation project currently underway in Afghanistan and provide improved water supply to irrigate approximately 129,000 hectares of land.</p>

## Bamyan

**Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 750 village women in Bamyan, and introducing the women to new markets for the surplus eggs produced.

## Ghazni

**Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 3,767 village women in Ghazni, and introducing the women to new markets for the surplus eggs produced.

**Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:-** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) are providing seed producer groups, local traders, farmers and agriculture extension agents technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.

**Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07:** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) has established 3 village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.

**On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Ghazni to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.

**Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 6 greenhouses in Ghazni.

**Bridge Construction in Aga Khil, JO#14: Project Completed.** Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation (AREA) reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak that connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. AREA also rehabilitated 42 km of roads, providing improved access to markets for families Wardak and Ghazni.

**Repair of Ghazni-Meray Access Road, and Road Rehabilitation in Malistan and Jaghori Districts, JO#19, #22: - Project Completed.** Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP) has rehabilitated 26.6 km of Loman Qarabagh road and 55 km of Jaghuri Malistan road. These roads provide access to the main Kabul-Kandahar highway from Ghazni, Andar and Qarabagh districts of Ghazni province.

**Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:** Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.

Hilmand
<p><b>Irrigation Canal and Drain Rehabilitation in Hilmand, JO#03:</b> - <b>Project Completed.</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) cleaned, widened and de-silted 109 km of drains ( Naway I Barakzai and Marja), and 15 km of canals (Marja) in Hilmand.</p>
<p><b>Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:-</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and its subcontractors are providing seed producer groups, local traders, farmers and agriculture extension agents technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.</p>
<p><b>Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) has established 4 village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.</p>
<p><b>On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Hilmand to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.</p>
<p><b>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:-</b> <b>Project Completed.</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 4 greenhouses in Hilmand.</p>
<p><b>Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO# 23:</b> Central Asia Development Group (CADG) is establishing demonstration farms with over 13 different types of crops being grown and providing technical assistance and training to Ministry of Agriculture and Food extension agents who are effectively monitoring and supporting the demonstration farms. Technical assistance and training has been provided in the following areas: processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.</p>
<p><b>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:</b> Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>
<p><b>Grape and Nut Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:-</b> Roots of Peace (RoP) is providing technical assistance to Afghan grape and nut producers, and training for Ministry of Agriculture extension agents; developing model farms demonstrating best practices; creating market/collection centers; establishing farmer-owned businesses and farmer/trader associations; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets.</p>
<p><b>Drain Rehabilitation in Hilmand, JO#43:</b> <b>Project Completed.</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) completed dredging 64 km of drains in the Darweshan, Shamalan, and Upper Boghra regions of middle Hilmand.</p>

<p><b>Institution Building and Advisory Services in Support of Water User Associations, JO#44:</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) established and monitored Water User Associations (WUAs) in Nad-i-Ali and Marja districts of middle Hilmand. At the national level, DAI designed the organizational structure and chartering of WUA – so effective models could be replicated in other provinces. The project was designed to empower water users to become self financing for operation, maintenance and management of canal and drainage systems from the farm gate to the river intake.</p>
<p><b>Alternative Incomes Project, JO#46: <span style="color: red;">Project Discontinued for Security Concerns.</span></b> AIP, implemented by Chemonics International was an integral part of USAID's Alternative Livelihoods Strategy for Afghanistan. In close consultation with all levels of the Afghan government, communities and donor agencies, and in support of the larger government of Afghanistan counter-narcotic initiative, AIP managed labor-intensive cash-for-work infrastructure projects and community development grants supporting economically-viable alternatives to poppy production.</p>
<p><b>Project to Support Income Generation and Agricultural Training, JO#46: <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Through AIP, Mercy Corps International provided vocational training in agricultural and poultry production, and produced agricultural radio programs to raise awareness in best practices for food processing and domestic agriculture activities. These programs focused on particularly vulnerable segments of the population – women-led households and internally displaced people. Collectively the grantees enrolled 536 participants in vocational training programs and reached a total of 3,946 beneficiaries through literacy courses, social protection campaigns, and instructional agriculture radio programs.</p>
<p><b>Hilmand Alternative Income Opportunities Program, JO#46: - <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Through AIP, INTERSOS facilitated vocational training programs for approximately 300 men and women residing at the Mokhtar Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camp.</p>
<p><b>Income Generating &amp; Construction Activities for Sustainable Livelihood in Hilmand, JO#46: <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Through AIP, Voluntary Association for Rehabilitation of Afghanistan (VARA) provided vocational training in agriculture and poultry production and tailoring; and constructed two community centers for women in Nad-i-Ali and Grishk regions of Hilmand.</p>

Hirat
<p><b>Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:</b> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 1,700 village women in Hirat and introducing the women to new markets for the surplus eggs produced.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project: Survey and Design Component, JO#27: - <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Bakhtar Construction and Rehabilitation Agency (BCRC), Afghan Rehabilitation and Agricultural Organization (ARAO), and Qinaat Construction Campaign (QCC) conducted a range irrigation surveys and designed irrigation structures/bridges in Hirat province. The deliverables produced through these purchase orders contributed to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted to rehabilitate irrigation systems in Hirat.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: - <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Batoor Design and Construction Incorporation (BDCI) is constructing the Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct on Ziaratjah branch of the Guzara canal and Trishriza 2 aqueduct on Joi Malan branch of Guzara Canal. BDCI is also repairing the Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal aqueduct in Trishrizan and constructing/repairing the Kurt Khujanur RCC aqueduct in Kurt Khujanur.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: <span style="color: red;">Project Completed.</span></b> Bureau of Design, Construction Implementing Services (BDCIS) constructed six bridges on the Guzara and Injil canals in Hirat province. Kurt e Shalikhana bridge (Guzara Canal). Tariak vehicle bridge, Tariak footbridge, Abdul Baqi Khan bridge, Abdullah bridge, Sofiabad bridge, Ghafar bridge (Injil Canal).</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27:</b> Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) is constructing water control and sediment flush out structures for Injil and Haft Qulb Canals in Hirat province to prevent flooding on farmlands.</p>

<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27: - Project Completed.</b> European Afghan Construction Company (EACC) reconstructed and rehabilitated 4 bridges – Chal Nashin, Khalifa, Ghazi, and Molay Moazen - on the Guzara canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27:</b> Social &amp; Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR) is constructing Bande Rig Siphon on Injil Canal crossing under Pashtan Wash located in Hirat province and sited on Injil canal. The siphon is to carry water across the dry wash in a concrete flume.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27:- Project Completed.</b> Taraqi Construction Company (TCC) is constructing 3 water dividers and 31 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project, JO#27:- Project Completed.</b> Afghan Rehabilitation and Agricultural Organization (ARAO) is constructing 2 retaining walls, 2 water dividers and 15 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil Canal in Hirat province.</p>
<p><b>Western Afghanistan Agribusiness Program, JO#27: - Project Completed.</b> Catholic Relief Services (CRS) conducted demonstrations for the three high-value crops (tomatoes, cumin and saffron), trained extension workers who provided technical assistance to the farmers growing tomatoes, cumin, and saffron and provided training on strategic planning for the women's businesses and sanitation control. CRS developed the growth of small-scale agri-processing businesses, focusing particularly on women entrepreneurs. The organization linked processors and exporters with financial institutions (microfinance and banks) so they could apply for loans to expand their businesses.</p>
<p><b>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:</b> Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>
<p><b>Institution Building and Advisory Services in Support of Water User Associations, JO#44:</b> Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) is establishing and monitoring Water User Associations (WUAs) in Injil district of Hirat. At the national level, DAI designed the organizational structure and chartering of WUA – so effective models could be replicated in other provinces. The project was designed to empower water users to become self-financing for operation, maintenance and management of canal and drainage systems from the farm gate to the river intake.</p>

### Jawzjan

**Northern Afghanistan Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control Program; JO#50:** - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted emergency pest control activities based on egg bed surveys conducted in 8 districts of Baghlan province. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts in 2006 and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005. Through 2006, FAO will continue to implement locust and Sunn pest control campaigns, and provide technical assistance to increase the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD).

### Kabul

**Direct Seedling Agriculture Project - JO#08B:** - International Assistance Mission (IAM) is examining effectiveness of using direct seeders for dry land wheat production at 6 sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces.

<p><b>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA established the Protected Agriculture Center (PAC) at the MAF's Badam Bagh research center in Kabul to provide training in greenhouse installation and management. Including those at the PAC, ICARDA has established 11 greenhouses in Kabul.</p>
<p><b>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:</b> Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>
<p><b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed.</b> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF).</p>
<p><b>Green Kabul Program, Reforestation, JO#32: - Project Completed.</b> United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) procured and distributed approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities included planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, organizing Kabul Green Week activities and coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.</p>

Kandahar
<p><b>Check Dam Construction, JO#02: - Project Completed.</b> Central Asia Development Group (CADG) constructed two check dams, Islam Dara II (Ghorak district) and Tangriz (Khakraz district) to store the flow of rainwater runoff, and to recharge aquifers and karezes.</p>
<p><b>On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Ghazni to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.</p>
<p><b>Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO# 23:</b> Central Asia Development Group (CADG) is establishing demonstration farms with over 13 different types of crops being grown and providing technical assistance and training to Ministry of Agriculture and Food extension agents who are effectively monitoring and supporting the demonstration farms. Technical assistance and training has been provided in the following areas: processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.</p>
<p><b>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:</b> Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>
<p><b>Grape and Nut Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:-</b> Roots of Peace (RoP) is providing technical assistance to Afghan grape and nut producers, and training for Ministry of Agriculture extension agents; developing model farms demonstrating best practices; creating market/collection centers; establishing farmer-owned businesses and farmer/trader associations; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets.</p>



**Fil Koh Chute Irrigation Repair, JO#33: Project Completed.** GULSAN-Cucurova assessed the damage and repaired the Fil Koh chute in Kandahar province to avoid disruption of irrigation for the South Canal area of the Arghandab irrigation system.

## Kunduz

**Irrigation Rehabilitation in Kunduz, JO#03- Project Completed.** Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI) cleaned, widened and de-silted 60 km of irrigation canals in Kunduz.

**Road Rehabilitation in Kunduz, JO#04: - Project Completed.** Kunduz Rehabilitation Agency (KRA) rehabilitated 24.1 km of secondary roads in Khan Abad district and constructed a 390 meter gabion protection wall for the Khan Abad Dam

**Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 5,340 village women in Kunduz and introducing the women to new markets for the surplus eggs produced.

**Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:-** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and its subcontractors are providing seed producer groups, local traders, farmers and agriculture extension agents technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.

**Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07:** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) has established 6 village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.

**On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Ghazni to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.

**Direct Seedling Agriculture Project - JO#08B:** International Assistance Mission (IAM) is examining effectiveness of using direct seeders for dry land wheat production at a 6 sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces.

**Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.** International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 6 greenhouses in Hilmand.

**Reconstruction of Road Infrastructure in Kunduz, JO# 20: Project completed.** Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB) rehabilitated 55.9 km of primary and secondary roads in Imam Sahib district.

**Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:** Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.

<p><b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO#30: - Project Completed.</b> In 2004, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan, consisting of ground spraying of Moroccan Locust hopper bands with Ultra Low Volume (ULV) pesticides, and training control organisers who will in turn approach local communities affected by locusts to undertake ground spraying operations in a safe and environmentally considerate manner.</p>
<p><b>Locust Control for Increased Agricultural Production in Northern Afghanistan, JO# 31: – Project Completed.</b> In 2004, GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys.</p>
<p><b>Northern Afghanistan Emergency Locust and Sunn pest Control Program; JO#50:</b> - Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted emergency pest control activities based on egg bed surveys conducted in 8 districts of Baghlan province. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts in 2006 and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005. Through 2006, FAO will continue to implement locust and Sunn pest control campaigns, and provide technical assistance to increase the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD).</p>

Nangarhar
<p><b>Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:</b> Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 5,450 village women in Nangarhar and introducing the women to new markets for the surplus eggs produced.</p>
<p><b>Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:-</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and its subcontractors are providing seed producer groups, local traders, farmers and agriculture extension agents technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.</p>
<p><b>Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) has established 3 village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.</p>
<p><b>On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Ghazni to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.</p>
<p><b>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 6 greenhouses in Nangarhar.</p>
<p><b>Kanday Road Rehabilitation and Diversion Canal Excavation, JO#11: - Project Completed.</b> Mission d'Aide au Development des Economies Rurales (MADERA) rehabilitated a 300 meter section of the road washed out between Jalalabad and Asadabad, constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke along side the road to reduce erosion, dug a diversion canal to divert part of the Kunar river to lessen the force of the flow on the newly constructed protection wall.</p>



<p><b>Improving Irrigation Systems &amp; Water Management, JO#18: - Project Completed.</b> Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA) rehabilitated the hydro technical, protection and division structures at the end point (6 Km) of Nangarhar canal and sub canals 29, 30, and 31. Through this project, RSSA rehabilitated 10.3 km of irrigation canals, constructed 2 diversion dams, and rehabilitated 15.5 km of tertiary roads.</p>
<p><b>Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District of Nangarhar, JO# 21: - Project Completed.</b> Social &amp; Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR) completed rehabilitation of 30 km of canals in Khewa district of Nangarhar province and built canal intakes along the Kunar River at Koti Taran and Shigee. Works were built to protect canals from overland floods.</p>
<p><b>Agricultural Produce Market Centers, JO# 34: Project Completed.</b> Relief International (RI) built small market collection centers at 19 locations in Nangarhar to provide shade for produce gathered from fields at harvest.</p>
<p><b>Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland in Nangarhar Province, JO# 35: Project Completed</b> International Foundation of Hope (IFHope) has cleaned and dredged silt deposits from 115.5 kilometers of blocked drainage ditches in two areas of highly productive irrigated agriculture in Nangarhar Province. Dredged spoil is to be used to rehabilitate roadways along the drains.</p>
<p><b>Improving Market Access Through Road Construction, JO# 36: Project Completed.</b> Humanitarian Assistance Development Foundation (HADDF) and Relief International (RI) collectively rehabilitated 44.5 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p><b>Irrigation System Protection, JO#36: Project completed.</b> Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA) cleaned and de-silted a 5 km section of sub canal 29 of Nangarhar's Main canal. Additionally, RSSA rehabilitated 5 km of road that runs parallel to the canal, and constructed/filled a 1,300 m river embankment along the road to prevent future erosion from floods.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#36: Project completed.</b> Afghan Bureau for Reconstruction (ABR) rehabilitated 24.15 km of road in Pachir Wa Agam district of Nangarhar province. ABR provided necessary on-the-job training programs so laborers could effectively upgrade their skills.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#36: Project completed.</b> Design and Construction Group (DCG) rehabilitated 26.8 km of road in Behsood and Shinwa districts of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: Project Completed.</b> AfghanAid rehabilitated 5 km of road between Saiphon and Lagarjoi in Nangarhar Province.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: Project completed.</b> Alyas Afghan Construction Company (AACC) rehabilitated 21.3 km of road in Sherzad and Khogiani districts of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p><b>Road Rehabilitation in Nangarhar, JO#38: Project completed.</b> HADF rehabilitated 13 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.</p>
<p><b>Nangarhar Emergency Wheat Seed Distribution, JO#48: Project completed.</b> In response to an emergency request from the Governor of Nangarhar, in December of 2005 ICARDA, RI, IFDC, IFHope, RSSA, and STAAR implemented a quick impact wheat seed distribution program in 23 districts of the province.</p>

## Parwan

**Village Women's Poultry Production and Market Development, JO#05:** Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) provided training in improved poultry care and production to over 6,141 village women, and introduced poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.

<p><b>Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development, JO#06:-</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and its subcontractors are providing seed producer groups, local traders, farmers and agriculture extension agents technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.</p>
<p><b>Village-Based Seed Enterprises, JO#07:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) has established 5 village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.</p>
<p><b>On-Farm Crop Demonstrations and Best Practices, JO#08:</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is developing demonstration plots for wheat, onion and potato in farmer's fields throughout Ghazni to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.</p>
<p><b>Protected Agriculture, JO#09:- Project Completed.</b> International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems (greenhouses) to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region. ICARDA has established 6 greenhouses in Parwan.</p>
<p><b>Shamali Plains Road and Canal Rehabilitation, JO#10: - Project Completed.</b> Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED) has rehabilitated 25.6 km of secondary roads and de-silted and widened 20 kms of the Charikar canal in Shamali Plains region.</p>
<p><b>Shamali Plains Dam Reconstruction, JO#15: - Project Completed.</b> Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) has completed the design and reconstruction of three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River. The three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. The canals from these dams irrigate over 40 villages.</p>
<p><b>Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems in Parwan, JO#16: Project completed.</b> Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) constructed five water diversion dams on the Salang/Ghorband river to provide water to five canals irrigating a total of 28,670 ha of farmland.</p>
<p><b>Dried Vegetable Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#26: -</b> Development Works Canada (DWC) developed dried vegetable agribusiness that included the construction of a 6,200 square foot dehydration factory to be used for cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory, a classroom for the research farm and training opportunities, and a 70 meter borehole to provide clean water for washing produce and irrigating the research farm.</p>
<p><b>Grain Postharvest Storage, Milling, Processing and Market Development, JO#28:</b> Grain Industry Alliance (GIA) is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full-scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.</p>

**Grape and Nut Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:-** Roots of Peace (RoP) is providing technical assistance to Afghan grape and nut producers, and training for Ministry of Agriculture extension agents; developing model farms demonstrating best practices; creating market/collection centers; establishing farmer-owned businesses and farmer/trader associations; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets.

### Samangan

**Grape and Nut Production Improvement, Agricultural Production, Processing and Market Development, JO#29:-** Roots of Peace (RoP) is providing technical assistance in nut production and marketing and establishing nut production, processing and marketing associations throughout central Samangan. The project is linking the associations with major nut exporters operating in the region.

### Wardak

**Bridge Construction in Aga Khil, JO#14- Project Completed.** Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation (AREA) reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak that connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. Also, 42 km of road has been rehabilitated including 42 washes and culverts.

### National

**Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan, JO#01:- Project Completed.** This was a \$5 million grant to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development (MRRD) that channeled funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA) - an umbrella fund that nationally supports microfinance institutions (MFIs) offering a range of financial services to those unable to access reliable sources of loan capital. MISFA financed an array of institutions that implemented an assortment of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability in Afghanistan. This is a World Bank supported activity.

**Livestock Health, Production and Marketing Improvement, JO#13:** Dutch Committee For Afghanistan (DCA) is creating a national network of private veterinary field units in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. The immediate goal of the project is to prevent further deterioration of the animal health services system already in place and to arrange for immediate vaccination and preventive treatment campaigns. The mid-term goal of the project, with a focus on business development and strengthening the organizational structure, is to enable the VFU-system to grow towards an independent, self-supporting system of provision of animal health services at village level. The longer term goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and food security in project areas by contributing to the improved health and productive capacity of local livestock

**Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development Project, JO#24:** -International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC) has established a national net work of agri-input dealers, and 6 regional dealer associations. The project is providing training to 2,000 agri-input dealers and developing Ministry of Agriculture-approved extension material in improved cropping techniques and plant disease diagnosis/treatment. IFDC is also improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, and developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs.

**Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan, JO#25:** - International Arid Lands Consortium/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (IALC/UIUC) is providing education on the sustainable management and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan by funding post-graduate Masters degree programs for 10 Afghan agriculturalists through the University of Peshawar, Pakistan.

<p><b>The Afghan Renewal Fund (The Fund), JO# 39:</b> The purpose of this Grant, managed by Acap Partners, is to fund a contribution to the Afghanistan Renewal Fund, a venture capital fund to be managed by Acap Partners. The Fund will create a finance delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Primarily, the investments will be made in the major cities of Kabul, Hirat, Mazar-i-Sharif and Jalalabad.</p>
<p><b>The Afghanistan International Bank (AIB), Small and Medium Enterprise Loans, JO#40:</b> - This revolving credit facility through AIB undertakes to extend medium and large sized loans in the range of \$50,000 to \$500,000 to agri-enterprises. AIB's credit facility is available nationwide and to-date loans have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Faryab, Hirat and Baghlan.</p>
<p><b>Business Mentoring Pilot Project, JO# 41:</b> - <b>Project Completed.</b> United Nations Development Program (UNDP's) Business Mentoring Program was primarily a resource for targeted agribusinesses, identified by USAID/RAMP in cooperation with UNDP. The Business Mentoring Program assisted with a variety of activities, including designing an efficient program with a revenue stream; profiling the agribusiness' current depth of skills and needs for additional capacity; and identifying appropriate experts to deliver specific technical assistance.</p>
<p><b>Business Development Services, JO#41:</b> - Flag International is providing Business Development Services (BDS) to Afghan agribusinesses with the goal of supporting their access to credit in support of RAMP's ongoing projects. The Subcontractor will target small and medium sized agribusinesses along the value chain and offer BDS services to Afghan agribusiness to access loans, leases, equity and post-finance assistance in order to grow their businesses.</p>
<p><b>The Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC), JO#42:</b> - The AFC is a leasing credit delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), specifically in the agricultural sector. The primary aim is to finance SME activities along the value chains that are receiving support through RAMP-funded projects. There is currently very limited lending available to SMEs, especially for agro-businesses. Making leasing available in Afghanistan will not only encourage processing to begin taking place, but will also allow business owners to obtain other types of equipment without having to front the full cost of the equipment.</p>
<p><b>Institution Building and Advisory Services in Support of Water User Associations, JO#44:</b> DAI established and monitored Water User Associations (WUAs) in Hilmand and Hirat provinces. At the national level, DAI designed the organizational structure and chartering of WUA – so effective models could be replicated in other provinces. The project was designed to empower water users to become self financing for operation, maintenance and management of canal and drainage systems from the farm gate to the river intake.</p>
<p><b>Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Institutional Capacity Building, JO#51:</b> Chemonics and Abt Associates are providing a cadre of senior officials working to enhance the capabilities of the MAF. In addition to carrying out sectoral assessments, these individuals are creating effective systems and structures to improve the MAF's ability to develop and implement activities in support of its national objectives – outlined in its recently completed <i>Master Plan</i>.</p>
<p><b>Agriculture Input Supply Program (AISP) and Agriculture Marketing and Production Support (AMPS) Activities - JO#52 and #54:</b> - AISP (Fall 2005) and AMPS (Spring 2006) are two separate seed and fertilizer distribution programs designed to enhance the capacity and coordination of the MAF at the national and provincial level as well as to present alternative livelihood opportunities to farmers. Through AISP, 14,000 metric tons (mt) of seed (wheat potato and onion) and 40,000 mt of fertilizer (DAP and urea) were distributed nationwide to more than 530,000 farmers in all 34 provinces. The more focused AMPS concentrates just on those provinces in Afghanistan that have some of the highest incidence of opium poppy cultivation where support for alternative livelihoods is most critical. This program is distributing high-value horticulture seeds (such as tomato, okra, cucumber, eggplant, watermelon, carrots, onions, etc.) and fertilizer to farmers residing in regions with established markets and processing centers.</p>

<b>Rural Financial Services</b> <b>Microfinance Investment Support Facility for Afghanistan (MISFA)</b> <b>Life of Project: December 18, 2003 - August 31, 2005</b> <b>Provinces: National</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#1-0003-MISFA	December 18, 2003	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$5,000,000	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> This was a \$5 million grant to the Ministry of Reconstruction and Rural Development (MRRD) that channeled funds to the Microfinance Investment and Support Facility Afghanistan (MISFA) - an umbrella fund that nationally supports microfinance institutions (MFIs) offering a range of financial services to those unable to access reliable sources of loan capital. MISFA financed an array of institutions that implemented an assortment of microfinance approaches in order to test their applicability in Afghanistan. This is a World Bank supported activity.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

- Provided technical assistance and contributed \$4,002,009 in loan capital to the following 12 MFIs: Ariana Financial Services Group/Mercy Corps, BRAC, CHF, AKDN, Women for Women, FINCA, CARE, WOCCU, MADERA, ACTED, and DACAAR.
- These MFIs disbursed 28,118 loans to micro-entrepreneurs engaged in agricultural activities in 17 provinces throughout Afghanistan: Kabul, Takhar, Kunduz, Bamyan, Ghazni, Baghlan, Badakshan, Hirat, Balkh, Parwan, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kunar, Kapisa, Samangan, Jawsjan and Sar-i-Pul.
- Project beneficiaries borrowed loans to engage in activities focused on: agri-input supply (i.e. improved seed and fertilizer varieties), crop and livestock production, timber product market systems, value-added processing, wholesaling, marketing, trade and export.
- MISFA achieved excellent repayment results – maintaining an average portfolio at risk less than 90 days under 2%.
- Successfully introduced new loan products, previously unavailable in Afghanistan, including:
- micro-leasing of small-scale farming and processing equipment, services targeting agrarian Kuchi nomads and agricultural traders, and the refinancing of loans for farmers in need of opium production debt relief.
- MISFA was extremely effective in promoting the services of its partnering MFIs and increasing the public awareness of microfinance in general through the dissemination of English, Dari and Pashto newsletters and posters.
- Through extensive cooperation with RAMP and its partner institutions, MISFA was able to meet and exceed all of its contractual targets, and significantly contributed to the operational sustainability and growth of micro-finance industry throughout Afghanistan.



Women for Women's Loan Officer with two of her clients in Sheena-Bagrami



<b>Kandahar Check Dams</b> <b>Central Asia Development Group (CADG)</b> <b>Life of Project: October 15, 2003 to August 15, 2004</b> <b>Province: Kandahar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#2-0002-CADG	October 15, 2003	James Huddleston	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$130,272	\$0	\$130,272	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> CADG constructed two check dams, Islam Dara II (Ghorak district) and Tangriz (Khakraz district) to store the flow of rainwater runoff, and to recharge aquifers and karezes.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

Years of drought in southern Afghanistan led to the rapid depletion of underground water resources, which fed the traditional karez (subterranean canals) irrigation systems in most villages. The two check dams constructed by CADG charge approximately six karez systems in the region. These dams allow villagers to harvest rainwater and divert it towards underground aquifers feeding previously unproductive farmland.

Check Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Islam Dara II	Kandahar	Ghorak	1	1	100%
Tangriz	Kandahar	Khakraz	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>



Tangriz Check Dam in Khakraz district, Kandahar province constructed by CADG through RAMP.

## Irrigation Rehabilitation for the Char Dara, Bala Doori and Darqad Systems

Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI)

Life of Project : October 21, 2003 to July 15, 2005

Provinces: Kunduz, Baghlan, Hilmand

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#3-0002-DAI	October 21, 2003	Mhd. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,517,295	\$0	\$3,489,706	\$27,589	\$261,734

**Project Description:** DAI has rehabilitated/cleaned 235 km of canals and drains throughout Kunduz (60 km), Baghlan (51) and Hilmand (124 km) provinces and rehabilitated 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads in Baghlan province.

### Project Accomplishments

- In Kunduz, Baghlan, and Hilmand, DAI rehabilitated 235 km irrigation canals and drains. Activities included de-silting and widening irrigation canals, and repairing/replacing water intakes, canal banks, protection walls, turnouts, and sluice gates. The project's provision of a reliable, timely supply of water resulted in substantially increased crop yields.
- In Baghlan DAI rehabilitated a total of 34.9 km of farm-to-market roads. The roads provide service to a population of 92,804; of who 59,940 reside in the area of the road corridor and the remaining 32,900 reside outside the catchment area, but depend on the road for services.



Local farmers working to de-silt the Darqad canal

Canal / Drain Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals / Drains Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Chardara Canal	Kunduz	Chahar Dara	60	60	100%
Darqad Canal	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	21	21	100%
Bala Doori Canal	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	30	30	100%
Marja Drainage System	Hilmand	Naway I Barakzai and Marja	109	109	100%
Boghra Canal	Hilmand	Marja	15	15	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>235</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>100%</b>
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Jue Naw Road	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	12.2	12.2	100%
Darqad Road	Baghlan	Puli Khumri	7.8	7.8	100%
Mongalha Road.	Baghlan	Puli Khumri and Dahana-I-Ghori	14.9	14.9	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>34.9</b>	<b>34.9</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Kunduz Road and Khan Abad Irrigation System Rehabilitation

Kunduz Reconstruction Agency (KRA)

Life of Project: October 10, 2003 to May 31, 2005

Province: Kunduz

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#4-0002-KRA	October 10, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$508,671	\$0	\$508,671	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> KRA rehabilitated 24.1 km of secondary roads in Khan Abad district and constructed a 390 m gabion protection wall for the Khan Abad Dam.				

### Project Accomplishments

- The 24.1 km of road rehabilitated by KRA provide the fundamental base for the socio-economic transformation of 32,773 people, who now have improved access to regional market centers. Because of these improvements, more vehicles are traveling on the roads, and travel time and transportation costs have significantly decreased.
- KRA's construction of the 390-meter protection wall along the Khan Abad Dam has already proven effective in preventing flooding and uncontrolled diversion of scarce water away from farmland. The Khan Abad Dam irrigation system now supplies water to 34,000 hectares of farmland, reaching 90,000 families.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Road Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Tarnab - Boin Road	Kunduz	Khan Abad	11.5	11.5	100%
Nik Pai - Jangal Bashi Road	Kunduz	Khan Abad	12.6	12.6	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>24.1</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>100%</b>
Protection Wall Construction	Province	District	Meters of Wall Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Dam protection wall construction	Kunduz	Khan Abad	390	390	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>390</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Before:** 11.5 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2004.



**After:** 11.5 km mark of the Nik Pai – Jangal Bashi road segment, February 2005.



**Development of Rural Poultry Production Activity**  
**Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**  
**Life of Project: November 3, 2003 – June 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Nangarhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Parwan, Ghazni, Bamyan, Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#5-0004-FAO	November 3, 2003	Daad Mohammad Amir	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,504,23	\$462,097	\$3,364,805	\$0	\$139,434

**Project Description:** FAO is providing training in improved poultry care and production to over 28,000 village women, and is introducing poultry income generating activities to open new markets for the surplus eggs.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

During the first quarter of 2006, continued its training, vaccination/material distribution, and Poultry Producer Group (PPG) activities in the following seven provinces:

Indicator	Parwan	Nangarhar	Kunduz	Baghlan	Ghazni	Bamyan	Hirat	Total
<b><i>Selected women trained/new</i></b>		678	700	1,832	1500	250	300	5,260
<b><i>Interested women trained/new</i></b>	64		478	639	268	39	83	1,571
<b><i>Pullets distributed</i></b>		4500						4,500
<b><i>Kg of poultry feed distributed</i></b>		720						720
<b><i>Village Poultry Producer Groups est.</i></b>							70	70
<b><i>Chicken coops constructed</i></b>			120	160		120	1,905	2,305
<b><i>Birds vaccinated</i></b>	33,607	94,320	55,170	80,536	28,301	4,600		291,934
<b><i>Birds treated</i></b>	13,338	6,104	448	25,402	3,477	0	0	48,769
<b><i>Kg of feed sold by Group Leaders</i></b>	48,804	32,758	23,557	13,626	16,596	0	0	135,341
<b><i>Eggs marketed by Group Leaders</i></b>	64,757	31,303	599,270	19,889	156,174	0	0	871,390

### ***Training***

- Provided training to 6,831 village women (through selection procedures and in response to unsolicited interest) in poultry production, and small business management.
- Organized 4,309 technical classes for village women. Classes were led by 145 women technicians trained by FAO through the program.
- Trained rural women in best management practices and bio-security measures for preventing the spread of Avian Influenza.



FAO trained technician providing poultry production training to women participants.

### ***Distribution of Materials***

- Distributed 625 feeders, 625 drinkers, 720 kg of mixed poultry ration, and 1,396 meters of wire mesh (for coop construction) to women participating in the project. Participants use the inputs to start small-scale poultry production enterprises.
- Identified means to use locally available construction materials to construct 2,305 modified chicken coops.

### ***Poultry Producer Group Activities***

- Organized trained participants into 70 Village Producers Groups and selected Group Leaders (GL) to monitor activities.
- The village GLs provided (for a fee) the group of women poultry producers with regular poultry vaccinations, chicken feed and other inputs, and market services for selling the surplus eggs produced by the group members.
- Vaccinated 291,934 chickens and treated 48,769 chickens against simple diseases and vitamin deficiencies.
- Marketed 871,390 eggs to the urban markets and sold 135,341 kg of poultry feed to the women poultry producers.
- Used Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to identify Avian Influenza (HPAI) in Afghanistan, and regularly monitored rural poultry projects for Avian Influenza outbreaks



Through FAO's poultry production and management program, women are introduced to new, sustainable, and market-driven income generating activities

### ***Looking Ahead***

- Continue training of approximately 6,960 selected women beneficiaries in seven provinces.
- GLs will vaccinate more than 150,000 birds.
- GLs will medically treat 15,000 birds for simple diseases and other ailments.
- GLs will sell 60 metric tons of feed to women participating in the training programs.
- FAO's women trainers will organize 60 technical meetings in the seven provinces.
- Develop and train poultry producers with new awareness materials for Avian Influenza.

### ***Challenges encountered and remedial action taken***

- The input delivery process has been disrupted by the Avian Influenza outbreaks in Kabul, Nangarhar, and Laghman provinces; the related ban on the transport of live chickens by the Afghan Government has created problems in delivering the pullets to the project sites. FAO has had to delay the distribution of inputs to participants who have completed the training courses due to these restrictions.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- FAO has improved its speed of implementation and the project has now exceeded its targeted deliverables.
- Village women enrolled in training courses in Bamyan and Hirat still need to receive all inputs related to begin their individual micro-enterprise activities.
- Due to budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract, this grant's Ceiling Price was reduced by \$95,000.

**Virus-free Potato Seed Production and Market Development**  
**International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**  
**Period of Performance: November 10, 2003 – April 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#6-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	Abdul Qahar Samin	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$695,645	\$157,228	\$378,743	\$173,915	\$142,986

**Project Description:** ICARDA and its subcontractors are providing technical guidance in needs assessment, machinery and equipment needs, purchase of start-up inputs, and training for virus-free potato seed production, multiplication, storage and marketing.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter – categorized by province***

#### ***Ghazni***

- 26.85 mt of clean seed potatoes were stored in four RAMP-funded, potato storage facilities owned and operated by local farmers.
- ICARDA transported 5 mt of seed potato from storage to Kunduz where it planted it on demonstration plots that had suffered from severe frost during earlier plantings.
- Seed producers in Ghazni sold 5 mt of seed potatoes to DACAAR at a price of \$0.34/kg.
- Seed producers sold 2 mt of seed potatoes to CRS for distribution in to farmers in Hirat and Ghor.
- Farmers are using the remaining stored clean seed potatoes to plant in their own fields.



Farmer in Ghazni states he is expecting to produce a maximum yield of potatoes this season.

#### ***Hilmand***

- A heavy frost in November 2005 badly damaged all of the potato demonstration plots; ICARDA has since replanted 10 plots throughout the province.

#### ***Kunduz***

- During early winter, frost severely damaged all demonstration plots in Kunduz. ICARDA obtained clean seed potatoes from Ghazni and distributed them to the farmers of Kunduz for replanting 14 demonstration plots.
- In December 2005, farmers harvested a 1-jerib (1 jerib equals .2 hectare) demonstration plot, planted in Ali Abad District with clean seed potatoes on August 2, 2005. The yield was 450 kg per jerib (2.25 mt/ha) and demonstrated that if environmental conditions are suitable, farmers may be able to grow a second crop of potatoes in Kunduz in the same year.

***Nangarhar***

- Seed potato was dehulled, heaped, and cleaned, treated and stored under the favorable conditions for breaking of its dormancy.
- ICARDA purchased clean seed potatoes stored in Khogiani District from farmers and used them for planting potato demonstrations.
- 14 mt of clean seed potato of KCM variety were transferred from Parwan Province and planted in potato demonstration plots.

***Parwan***

- Transferred 14 mt of stored seed potatoes from Parwan province to Nangarhar for planting potato demonstrations.

***Bamyan***

- Trained 1,125 farmers, MAF staff, and NGOs in Bamyan in integrated crop management (ICM), integrated disease management (IDM), aphid monitoring, and post-harvest management and marketing of seed potato.

***Kabul***

- Plantlets of four potato varieties, produced in vitro in the tissue culture lab in Badam Bagh, were transplanted to nearby greenhouses (at Badam Bagh) in order to produce mini-tubers.
- ICARDA repaired a screen house that was completely damaged during the winter snowfall.

***Looking Forward***

- Rehabilitate 9 stores with suitable shelving in Ghazni and Parwan.
- Build two additional stores in Bamyan.
- Submit to RAMP management, along with the final report, a report with all the storage and marketing results of the stored seed potatoes.
- Begin close-out procedures for the project.

***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

- Most stores are in need of shelving in order to maximize the use of the storage space without undue piling of the potatoes. ICARDA will refurbish 7 potato stores in Ghazni and 2 in Parwan with new shelving.
- The Clean Seed Potato Project will end on April 30, 2006. ICARDA will need to follow all closeout procedures as outlined in their subcontract and dispose of all assets after receiving approval by USAID/RAMP. In the final report, ICARDA will need to describe what it has achieved in regards to the deliverables outlined in their subcontract.

***Project Manager Comments***

- The results of planting clean seed potatoes in warmer provinces (such as, Hilmand, Nangarhar, and Kunduz) were favorable. Farmers are able to get two crops of potatoes per year if they follow best practices outlined by ICARDA.
- RAMP management identified that the micro-propagation work to produce the mini-tubers at the tissue culture laboratory at Badam Bagh can only be sustained if the MAF deposes at least two of its recently trained technicians to work permanently at the laboratory.
- Due to budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract, this subcontract's Ceiling Price will be reduced by approximately \$80,000.



**Village-Based Seed Enterprises Program**  
**International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**  
**Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#7-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,448,635	\$328,091	\$1,165,502	\$283,134	\$0

**Project Description:** ICARDA is developing village-based seed enterprises (VBSE) to respond to the need for reliable sources of quality agri-inputs throughout Afghanistan. The VBSEs each comprise of at least 10 farmers who receive technical assistance from ICARDA on appropriate machinery, equipment, storage facilities, start-up inputs, and business management. ICARDA is also helping the VBSEs create operational by-laws, navigate business registration procedures, and identify financial services providers.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

By the end of March 2006, ICARDA had established 21 Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSEs) and provided training to 2,466 farmers in seed multiplication techniques through agriculture extension agents.

Province	March 2006 Target		March 2006 Actual	
	VBSEs Established	Farmers Trained	VBSEs Established	Farmers Trained
Ghazni	2	120	3	120
Hilmand	4	150	4	390
Kunduz	6	180	6	717
Nangarhar	5	180	3	993
Parwan	3	150	5	246
<b>Total:</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2,466</b>

Also during this past quarter, ICARDA accomplished the following:

- Provided technical assistance to the VBSEs in registering them as legally recognized seed businesses and in designing a project-specific logo. VBSEs will print this logo on the bags of seed that they produce and sell.
- 42 members of the VBSEs and 5 ICARDA coordinators participated in a two-day workshop organized by the International Development and Research Center (IDRC) on January 19-20, 2006 in Kabul on "Strengthening the Seed System for Food Security in Afghanistan".
- In Kunduz, members of VBSEs attended training courses conducted by RAMP partner GIA on seed storage and handling
- ICARDA procured tractors for all but 13 of the VBSEs - (50% of the cost covered by ICARDA, 50% by the VBSE).
- Conducted a post-harvest and seed demand survey in each target province.
- Assisted VBSEs in implementing their business plans and maintaining proper record books.



Farmers in Khewa, Nangarhar weeding a VBSE wheat seed multiplication plot.

### ***Looking Ahead***

- By-Laws of each of the VBSEs will be amended to reflect how much VBSEs should be paid for the cleaning, storage, tractor rental, and marketing services they provide. The By-Laws will also reflect the VBSEs' policy on retaining a percentage of the revenue from the sale of seed to support their operating budgets.
- ICARDA will assist each VBSE in implementing activities of their business plans in a timely manner, ensure they are recording all seed multiplication plot yields, amount of seed sold and cash received from the sale, amount of seed stored, and amount of seed used for their own farming.
- ICARDA will distribute tractors to the remaining 13 VBSEs.
- ICARDA will report results of the post-harvest and seed demand survey it conducted during the 4th quarter of 2005.
- In RAMP/ICARDA/VBSEs meeting with the Afghan Finance Company (AFC), it was agreed that AFC would give credit to the Ali Abad VBSE for purchasing an Italian combine and that AFC would discuss further with the ICARDA's other VBSEs on providing credit for other farm equipment.
- For sustainability of the project, ICARDA will need to register the 21 VBSEs with the MAF and AISA.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

- VBSEs have not established clear policies on charging for the services provided by the VBSEs. ICARDA needs to provide training and technical assistance to VBSEs to standardize prices for their services.
- The security situation in Hilmand remained serious. As a result, ICARDA's provincial, technical team has had to maintain a low profile. Although many of the international agencies have withdrawn their personnel from Hilmand, ICARDA is maintaining its project activities while taking the necessary precautions in its movements.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- ICARDA should expedite the purchase of the 13 remaining tractors for the VBSEs.
- ICARDA should assist the VBSEs to register in MAF and AISA to legalize the VBSEs for sustainability purposes and for transforming them into cohesive business organizations.
- For sustainability of the project, ICARDA should assist and ensure that the By-Laws reflect how much the VBSEs are paid for the cleaning, storage, tractor rental, and marketing services they provide.

**Crop Demonstration Best Practices Project**  
**International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**  
**Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – June 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Parwan, Ghazni, Nangarhar, Hilmand, Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager Contact</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#8A-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	Abdul Qahar Samin	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,678,861	\$192,241	\$1,243,936	\$134,465	\$300,460

**Project Description:** ICARDA is developing demonstration plots in farmers' fields throughout 5 provinces to facilitate the rapid diffusion and adoption of new technologies, improved and adapted agri-input varieties, improved field irrigation management practices, and appropriate crop management.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- ICARDA planted 127 Crop demonstrations with onion seedlings, tomato seedlings, seed potatoes, or okra in its five priority provinces.
- Monitored and reported on yield of 161 wheat demonstrations. Each demonstration includes two varieties on improved wheat. ICARDA observed little or no winterkill of the wheat.
- The yield of potato demonstration plots planted in Nangarhar in mid-September and harvested in late-December (2005) was 37% higher than the yield on fields where farmers used traditional practices
- Delivered agriculture extension training to 10,952 farmers.
- Conducted cost/benefit analysis of 2005 demonstration plots in Ghazni producing wheat, potato, and onion using best practices versus traditional practices. The results indicated that using best practices for production of all three crops increased the benefit to cost ratio. Most notably was the demonstration plot for onions, where the benefit to cost ratio more than doubled.

Crop Demo	Benefit:Cost Ratio Best Practices	Benefit:Cost Ratio Traditional Practices
<b>Wheat</b>	1.6	1.3
<b>Potato</b>	4.8	3.4
<b>Onion</b>	5.4	2.3

### ***Looking Ahead***

- Continue monitoring of all crop demonstrations and providing technical assistance to participating farmers through field days.
- Explore means to link ICARDA Village Based Seed Enterprises (VBSEs) with farmers interested in procuring improved seed varieties for their land.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- Once the adoption rate survey conducted by RAMP is completed, the results should be shared with farmers who are participating in demonstrations to get the farmers' reaction
- Due to budget cuts, ICARDA will not be conducting rice, peanut, cotton, and mungbean demonstration plots. This subcontract's Ceiling Price will be reduced by approximately \$41,544.



Farmers in Nangarhar transplanting onions into demonstration plot

**Direct Seeding Agriculture Project**  
**International Assistance Mission**  
**Life of Project: October 19, 2004 - June 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Kabul and Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#8B-0004-IAM	October 19, 2005	Abdul Qudous	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$62,579	\$0	\$40,551	\$22,028	\$0

**Project Description:** IAM is examining effectiveness of using direct seeders for dry land wheat production at a six sites in Kabul and Kunduz provinces.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- Continued testing the use of a John Deere 1560 direct seeder for planting improved wheat varieties on rainfed areas in Kunduz province through production trials with private farming contracts involving cost-sharing.
- The 2005-2006 experimental trials followed a similar format as the 2004-2005 experimental trials. IAM planted an experimental plot of 14 hectares in Kunduz, Ali Abad, and Khan Abad Districts in Kunduz Province to compare the yield of the following conditions:
  - local cultivation versus direct seed cultivation techniques
  - a local wheat variety (Zardana) versus an improved variety (Lalmi 2)
  - a local variety of Chickpea versus an improved variety of Chickpea
  - no fertilizer versus using DAP (at 37kg/ha) and a seeding rate of 80kg/ha versus a seed rate of 120kg/ha
  - using 2,4-D versus not using 2,4-D.
- IAM also planted sites to demonstrate best practices using direct seeding on 12 hectares of private rainfed farmland in Ali Abad, Kunduz Center, and Khan Abad.
- In March 2006, IAM conducted 3 field days in Ali Abad and Kunduz Centre with over 93 farmers attending.
- Five farmers in the three districts in Kunduz used the direct seeding method for planting about 21 hectares to improved wheat on their own rainfed land.

### ***Looking Forward***

IAM will continue managing its experimental plots and demonstration sites, conduct farmer field days, collect yield data, and analyze and evaluate the results on all sites.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

Some farmers participating in the demonstrations preferred using Imophos, an unlabeled, cheap, imported fertilizer, on their wheat demonstrations. IAM allowed the farmers to use the Imophos, however, on another part of the same farmer's demonstration plot, IAM used DAP.



Chickpea planting trials at an IAM demonstration farm in Kunduz



**Introducing Protected Agriculture in Marginal and Water Deficient Areas**  
**International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)**  
**Life of Project: November 10, 2003 – March 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Baghlan, Ghazni, Hilmand, Kabul, Kunduz, Nangarhar, Parwan**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#9-0004-ICARDA	November 10, 2003	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,279,682	\$251,331	\$1,118,647	\$90,198	\$70,836

**Project Description:** ICARDA is introducing protected agriculture for cash crop production in marginal and water deficit areas of Afghanistan. The project is promoting the adoption of affordable and sustainable protected agricultural systems to produce high value crops, using marginal or otherwise non-productive lands and water more efficiently. The project demonstrates the effective use of greenhouse facilities, and then links farmers interested in investing in greenhouses on their own properties with financial services providers in their region.

### **Project Accomplishments**

ICARDA has completed all contacted activities under this RAMP Job Order, and has begun close-out procedures. Through this project, ICARDA established 41 greenhouses (GH) and provided training to 476 farmers and agriculture extension agents in construction, operation, and maintenance of GHs. ICARDA surpassed all of its GH and training target indicators in each of the seven provinces it was working.

Province	March 2006 Target		March 2006 Actual	
	Greenhouses Established	Farmers / Extension Agents Trained	Greenhouses Established	Farmers / Extension Agents Trained
Baghlan	6	N/A	6	N/A
Ghazni	4	31	6	104
Hilmand	4	41	6	104
Kabul	8	41	11	87
Kunduz	4	41	6	48
Nangarhar	4	41	6	73
Parwan	4	41	6	60
<b>Total:</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>476</b>

### **Green House Production and Operation**

- ICARDA established a plastic GH fabrication facility in Kabul to manufacture GHs, measuring 29 meters x 9m x 3.25m.
- ICARDA GHs, including water pump, generator for the pump, water reservoir tank, tank stand and pipes, drip irrigation system, and well cost \$2,850. For each newly established GH, ICARDA contributes \$1,350, Mercy Corps International contributes \$800, and the individual farmers contribute \$700 of their own funding.
- The annual income from the greenhouse of two off-season crops of cucumbers is about \$2800.
- Annual cost of production is about \$1660. Net profit is about \$1140



Off-season crops (basil and radish) in ICARDA greenhouse that survived through winter temperatures dropping below 17 C°.

### ***Protected Agriculture Center***

- ICARDA established a Protected Agriculture Center (PAC) at the MAF's Badam Bagh research station in Kabul to demonstrate the effectiveness of appropriate GH use.
- ICARDA used the facility to provide training to Ministry staff and NGOs in GH operation, and associated practices such as drip irrigation, plant nursery management, integrated production and protection management (IPPM) practices, and crop handling.
- For demonstration purposes, ICARDA planted parsley and spinach on the two GHs at the PAC.

### ***Looking Forward***

- Provide training on GH production and management for the 30 private GH farmers and other interested farmers.
- Report the results of the socio-economic assessment to RAMP.
- Report the results of the vegetable market prices drawn from regularly conducted wholesale market surveys.
- Prepare and submit final report.



ICARDA technicians in Ghazni helping a farmer plant tomato seeds in his greenhouse.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken***

- Security and protection of GH on farmers' fields is a serious concern. Farmers may need to arrange for securing their GH, especially when there is a crop ready for harvest
- The insecure situation in Hilmand hampered the movement of ICARDA's project team.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- In order to encourage the sustainability of the GHs development, ICARDA should ensure all GH manufacturing supplies are available from private sources that are accessible to GH growers.
- ICARDA should have meetings with Noor Brothers (local agri-input supplier) to import hybrid seeds to Afghanistan and sell the seeds to GH growers.
- Due to budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract, this subcontract's Ceiling Price will be reduced by approximately \$100,000 and Period of Performance was reduced by 2 months.

**Shamali Plains Road and Canal Rehabilitation**  
**Agence d'aide a la Cooperation et au Developpement (ACTED)**  
**Life of Project : December 1, 2003 - October 31, 2005**  
**Province: Parwan**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#10-0002-ACTED	December 1, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$729,109	\$0	\$676,057	\$53051	\$0

**Project Description:** ACTED has rehabilitated 25.6 km of secondary roads and de-silted and widened 20 km of the Charikar canal in Shamali Plains region of Parwan province.

### **Project Accomplishments**

- ACTED has rehabilitated 25.6 km of three separate road segments in Charikar, Parwan. Consequently, travel time needed to transport produce from farms to market has been reduced by 55% – 75%. These roads service approximately 32,500 people in their catchment area.
- The Nahri Charikar Canal provides irrigation facilities to an estimated 7,000 hectares in six valleys. In order to restore the original capacity of the canal to deliver water, ACTED cleared and de-silted 20 km of the canal network, allowing the canal irrigation water to once again flow freely through the Shamali Plains to beneficiary farmers.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sinjid Dara Road	Parwan	Charikar	4.2	4.2	100%
Canal Road	Parwan	Charikar	11.8	11.8	100%
Main Shakh Road	Parwan	Charikar	9.6	9.6	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>25.6</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>100%</b>
Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nahri Charikar Canal	Parwan	Charikar	20	20	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>

Following is a collection of 'Before and After' photos of ACTED's work on the Canal and Main Shakh Road segments.



**Before:** Canal road at 4.6 km mark before rehabilitation



**After:** Canal road at 4.6 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation work.



**Before:** Canal road at 5.3 km mark before rehabilitation



**After:** Canal road at 5.3 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation work.



**Before:** Main Shakh at 1.8 km mark before rehabilitation



**After:** Main Shakh at 1.8 km mark after ACTED's rehabilitation

**Kanday Road Rehabilitation and Diversion Canal Excavation**  
**Mission d'Aide au Developement des Economies Rurales en Afghanistan (MADERA)**  
**Life of Project : December 15, 2003 – August 31, 2004**  
**Province: Nangarhar**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#11-002-MADERA	December 15, 2003	Khodaidad Mahmood	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$448,100	\$0	\$448,100	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> MADERA rehabilitated a 300 meter section of the road washed out between Jalalabad and Asadabad, constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke along side the road to reduce erosion, dug a diversion canal to divert part of the Kunar river to lessen the force of the flow on the newly constructed protection wall.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

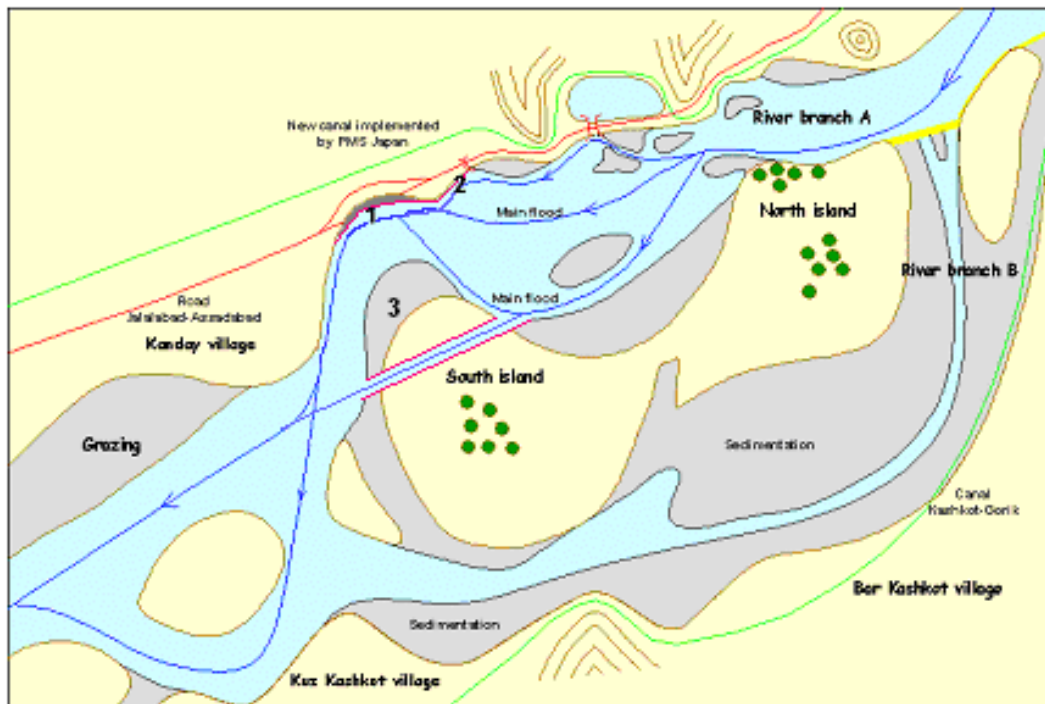
During floods, the Kunar River had eroded its 3 to 5 m high bank near Kanday Village, and effectively severed road communications between Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province and Asad Abad in Kunar Province.

- MADERA worked with PMS, a Japanese NGO who were building a new irrigation canal upstream from the site of the collapsed roadway, to rehabilitate a 300 m section of the road that floods had damaged. MADERA's efforts effectively redirect flow of the Kunar River away from the right bank, to protect villages and agricultural lands, restore the main road between Nangarhar and Kunar provinces and construct flood protection works for the benefit of the PMS canal.
- To protect the road from further erosion, MADERA also constructed a protection wall and gabion dyke, and excavated a canal to divert the river's water flow from the road and surrounding villages.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kanday Road	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	.3	.3	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>.3</b>	<b>.3</b>	<b>100%</b>
Protection Wall Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kunar River Protection wall and gabion dyke	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>
Diversion Canal Excavation	Province	District	Cubic meters of sediment excavated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kunar River diversion canal	Nangarhar	Kuz Kunar	3,250 m <sup>3</sup>	3,250 m <sup>3</sup>	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>3,250 m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>3,250 m<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>100%</b>



The following diagram illustrates how MADERA's work on the retaining wall and diversion canal protects the recently rehabilitated roadwork from further erosion.



MADERA and RAMP project managers made several adaptations to the original design during construction. Among the most important of these were, the extension of the bank protection dyke into the channel to further induce the river to move toward the middle of this highly braided river, enlarge the channel designed for river straightening by integrating work with that of PMS, and the combining of gabions and large dumped stone to stabilize the relocated dyke.

Sedimentation occurred along the protection wall dyke following a major flood during 2004. The sediment deposits provide additional assurance of the stability of the works and indicate that the right bank heights are not likely to be attacked by high flow velocities. A further measure to ensure stability of the works is a possible program of forestation on the dyke and embankment to stabilize it against erosion.

Beneficial sedimentation due to redirection of flow and construction of the protection wall along the river bank





**Livestock Health, Production, and Marketing Improvement Program**  
**Dutch Committee for Afghanistan (DCA)**  
**Life of Project: January 6, 2004 – June 10, 2006**  
**Province: Nationwide**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#13-0004-DCA	January 6, 2004	Daad Mohammad Amir	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$11,995,453	\$1,400,749	\$9,731,335	\$500,000	\$1,764,118

**Project Description:** DCA is creating a national network of private veterinary field units (VFUs) in all 380 districts of Afghanistan. The immediate goal of the project is to prevent further deterioration of the animal health services system already in place and to arrange for immediate vaccination and preventive treatment campaigns. The mid-term goal of the project, with a focus on business development and strengthening the organizational structure, is to enable the VFU-system to grow towards an independent, self-supporting system of provision of animal health services at village level. The longer term goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and food security in project areas by contributing to the improved health and productive capacity of local livestock

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- During January and March 2006, DCA and its partners Afghan Veterinary Association (AVA) and Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB) delivered 3,767,911 through its national network of Veterinary Field Units (VFUs). The average number of veterinary services per district in the DCA project was 13,852, including 8,610 vaccinations, 5,032 medications administered, and 210 other veterinary services (i.e. basic diagnostics and minor surgeries).

<b>Region</b>	<b>Provinces Covered</b>	<b>Districts Covered</b>	<b># VFUs</b>	<b>Vaccination</b>	<b>Medication</b>	<b>Other Vet Service</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>DCA-Kabul (Central)</b>	4	29	52	132,870	109,898	6,285	<b>249,053</b>
<b>DCA-Hirat (West)</b>	4	43	116	474,486	273,361	7,487	<b>755,334</b>
<b>DCA-Mazar (North)</b>	5	38	49	605,364	264,882	10,354	<b>880,600</b>
<b>AVA (South)</b>	14	120	120	678,163	452,601	25,717	<b>1,156,481</b>
<b>PRB (North-East)</b>	4	42	49	451,123	267,999	7,321	<b>726,443</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>2,342,006</b>	<b>1,368,741</b>	<b>57,164</b>	<b>3,767,911</b>

### ***Materials and Vaccination Procurement/Distribution***

- Completed installation of 38 solar-powered refrigerators vaccination storage in the Central and North provinces of Bamyan, Parwan, Pansjhir, Kapisa, Balkh, Jawzjan, Kunduz and Faryab.
- Procured an additional 180 solar-powered refrigerators for future installation in VFUs.
- Imported (all except Anthrax, which can be procured domestically) the following quantities of livestock vaccines. DCA will store these vaccines at its central warehouse in Kabul and then sell and deliver them to regional retailers, VFUs and other NGOs:
  - 2.5 Million doses of PPR,
  - 1 million doses of Sheep/goat pox,
  - 1.5 million doses of Newcastle Disease,
  - 750,000 doses of Gumboro,
  - 1 million doses of ETV (Melspring),
  - 10,000 doses of FMD,
  - 400,000 doses of Black Quarter,
  - 5 million doses of Enterotoxemia (Syva-Lab, Spain)
  - 1.7 million doses of Hemorrhagic Septicemia (Syva-Lab),
  - 3 million doses of Anthrax (AVPL-Kabul)
  - 200,000 doses of Avian influenza (scheduled to arrive in country mid-April)

## Training

- A 2-week Refresher Training Course on Differential Diagnosis was held at the Charikar training Center for 20 para-vets from DCA, CCA, Madera and the Afghan Government.
- Two new para-vet courses (one at Charikar and the other at Hirat) were held for 47 trainees from DCA, PRB, Madera, AKDN and the Ministry of Borders and Tribal Affairs. Of the 47 trainees, 12 were recruited from the Kuchi nomads and one woman para-vet was recruited from Badakhshan.
- A one-month, Basic Veterinary Workers (BVW) Training Course with 11 trainees (including 3 women) from DACAAR and CCA was completed.
- Business Skills Training courses were conducted for 42 VFU operators from AVA, DCA and PRB.
- 22 para-vets graduated on February 15, 2006 from the para-vet training center in Mazar-i-Sharif, Balkh.
- Preparations started for the third new para-vet training course, scheduled from March 1-July 31, 2006 for 27 potential candidates.

Veterinary Training Center	Training	Course type	Duration	DVM	Para-vet	BVW	Agency
Charikar	Refresher	Reproduction and Pregnancy diagnosis	2 weeks	16			DCA, AVA, MC
Charikar	Refresher	Disease Differential Diagnosis	2 weeks		20		DCA, MADERA & Gov
Charikar	New	Basic Veterinary Workers (BVW)	One month			11	CCA & DACCAR
Charikar	New	Para-vet Training	24 weeks		34		Kuchi
Charikar	New	Business Skill Training	2 weeks		10		AVA
Hirat	New	Para-vet Training	24 weeks		20		DCA, AVA & AKF
Jalalabad	New	Business Skill Training	2 weeks	19	19		AVA
Kandahar	New	Business Skill Training	2 weeks		11		AVA
Mazar	New	Para-vet Training	24 weeks		22		DCA and AKF
Mazar	New	Business Skill Training	2 weeks	10	12		DCA & PRB
Mazar	New	Para-vet Training	24 weeks		22		DCA

## Government and Donor Coordination

- DCA assisted veterinary department in sample collections for Avian Influenza field surveillance activities. It was the beginning of constructive public-private sector cooperation in the control of animal diseases in Afghanistan.
- DCA continues to support the development of the Kabul University Veterinary Faculty Clinic in Kabul. Senior veterinarians at DCA, notably the Deputy Program Director, are also attending the clinic intermittently to assist in the teaching and patient care functions.
- A promotional bulletin has been developed for issue to the public that describes the activities, and services provided by the clinic.

## Looking Forward

- Procure more vaccine: Anthrax, Rabies, Enterotoxemia, Pasteurella, BQV, Fowl-pox and Coryza.
- Supply all VFUs with support materials and equipment, including motor bikes, equipment kits, cold chain, signboards, etc.
- Complete the construction of the new dormitory in Charikar training center.
- Continue the training of 20, 25, and 22 new para-vets at the DCA training centers in Hirat, Charikar, and Mazar, respectively.
- Join the Government Evaluation Team on Privatization of Veterinary Field Services in their visits to selected VFUs.
- Provide continuing support to the newly graduated para-vets in the regions.
- Continue data collection on livestock production and markets.
- Install 20 solar powered refrigerators allocated for the Hirat region.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

- DCA has run into some obstacles with the Ministry of Finance in obtaining customs exemptions for vaccine importation. RAMP will facilitate a meeting with the Ministry of Finance and other essential Government officials to resolve these issues.
- Coordination is needed in solving problems stemming from overlapping veterinary activities by different NGOs in various regions of Afghanistan. RAMP and DCA are drafting a letter to the President of the Department of Animal Health and Production of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food to encourage greater coordination of all implementing bodies.
- DCA receives reports about vaccines being sold in local medicine bazaars under non-refrigerated conditions and of unknown sources. RAMP is conducting investigations to find the origin of these vaccines.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- DCA needs to supply as soon as possible all VFUs with motor bikes, equipment kits, cold chain, signboards, and other supportive equipment and materials they are expecting to receive
- The Livestock Steering Committee of which DCA plays a very influential participatory role has proven to be a very effective forum for donor coordination, strategic planning, and policy formulation with the MAF.



Opening ceremony of new Veterinary Field Unit (VFU) near Mazar-I-Sharif, Balkh.

A DCA solar-powered vaccination refrigerator on display at the RAMP Showcase in Kabul on March 29, 2006.



**Bridge Construction and Road Rehabilitation in Aga Khil**  
**Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)**  
**Life of Project : January 7, 2004 - February 15, 2004**  
**Province: Wardak, Ghazni**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#14-0002-AREA	January 7, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,454	\$0	\$2,454	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> AREA reconstructed the bridge (24 meters long, 3 meters high with 42 culverts) near Aga Khil in Wardak which connected Ghazni-Hazarajat market centers. Also, 42 km of road has been rehabilitated including 42 washes and culverts. This project was begun under AQIPS and completed under RAMP in January 2004.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

- The bridge near Aga Khil, Wardak spans a seasonal river, which floods during the spring and late summer. Because of the flooding, both local and Ghazni-Hazarajat transportation routes were obstructed before AREA's rehabilitation work. Local traffic serves mostly farmers going to Ghazni to buy inputs and sell produce (timber, onions, potatoes, wheat).
- Approximately 64,000 community members benefit from the newly rehabilitated roads who have improved access to clinics, family/friends in other towns/villages, and schools.

Bridge Reconstruction	Province	District	Bridges Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Aga Khil Bridge	Wardak	Jaghathu	1 (24 meters)	1 (24 meters)	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Aga Khil Road	Wardak and Ghazni	Jaghathu (Wardak/Ghazni) to Rashidan (Ghazni)	<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Total:</b>			<b>42</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>100%</b>



AREA laborers working on Aga Khil bridge.



Aga Khil bridge completed by AREA in February 2004.

**Construction of Three Dams for Shamali Plains**  
**Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)**  
**Life of Project : January 7, 2004 - January 31, 2004**  
**Province: Parwan**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#15-0002-RAFA	January 7, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,746	\$0	\$2,746	\$0	\$0

**Project Description:** RAFA has completed the design and reconstruction of three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River. The three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. Over 40 villages are irrigated by the canals from these dams.

### ***Project Accomplishments***

Through 2003, RAFA was working on the USAID-funded Afghanistan Quick Impact Program (AQIP) in Parwan, constructing three large dams along the Ghorband River. Due to the lack of time under AQIP to finish the project, RAMP absorbed all remaining activities and monitored the completion of the three large dams in the Shamali Plains.

The three water diversion dams along the Ghorband River (Charikar, Khwaja/Matak, Mahigeer) irrigate approximately 18,000 hectares of land. Over 40 villages are irrigated by the canals from these dams.



Diversion dam constructed by RAMP partner RAFA on the Ghorband River, Parwan province.

Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Charikar Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
Khwaja/Matak Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
Mahigeer Dam	Parwan	Charikar	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>



<b>Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Parwan</b> <b>Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)</b> <b>Life of Project: January 21, 2004 to January 31, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Parwan</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#16-0002-RAFA	January 21, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$742,737	\$157,602	\$631,354	\$0	\$111,383
<b>Project Description:</b> RAFA constructed five water diversion dams on the Salang/Ghorband river to provide water to five canals irrigating a total of 28,670 hectares of farmland.				

### Project Accomplishments

In January 2006, the Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA) completed five dams and related water control structures along the Salang and Gorbard Rivers. RAFA installed structures on the intakes to the Barq, Belowdan, Ibrahim Khil, Afghan, and Toghbirdy canals. Collectively the canals irrigate approximately 28,000 hectares of farmland in Parwan – benefiting over 13,000 farm families growing wheat, maize, cotton, grapes and assorted vegetables in the region.

Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Barq Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
Belowdan Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
Toghbirdy Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Said khil	1	1	100%
Ibrahim Khil Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
Afghan Canal Diversion Dam	Parwan	Jabalussaraj	1	1	100%
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Above:** Completed diversion dam constructed by RAFA at Barq canal intake in Jabalussaraj, Parawan.

**Left:** Governor Abdul Jabbar Taqwa of Parwan (hand raised) at USAID marker, on March 9, 2006 inauguration of the five dams completed by RAFA.



**Road Rehabilitation in Balkh Province**  
**Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation in Afghanistan (AREA)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - July 31, 2005**  
**Province: Balkh**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#17-0002-AREA	February 17, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,242,867	\$0	\$1,242,867	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> AREA rehabilitated 96.9 km of road in Balkh province, including the construction of culverts and other necessary road structures, improving main transportation routes leading to the main bazaar and local markets.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

- AREA rehabilitated 96.9 km of roads in Dihdadi, Balkh, Chimtal, Nahari-Shahee and Charbulak districts of Balkh province. These improvements assist the 244,000 people living in 36,681 hectares of agricultural land located on their catchment area.
- Rapid increase in traffic flows on these roads has lead to higher economic opportunities. The Deragai and Chimtal road segments are experiencing a 40-60 percent increase in vehicle traffic.
- On the Chimtal road segment, transport costs dropped from \$10 to \$6 per metric ton on Chimtal road. Similarly, on the Colombo and Deragai road segments, the transport costs decreased from \$8 to \$5 per metric ton. These savings have occurred in spite of the fact that fuel prices have increased substantially over the same period of time throughout Afghanistan.

Activity	Province	District	Km of Road Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sarake Kohna Balkh Road	Balkh	Dihdadi and Balkh	8.4	8.4	100%
Colombo (Daggo) Road	Balkh	Balkh	26	26	100%
Dehbabi/Deragai Road	Balkh	Balkh	12	12	100%
Chimtal Road	Balkh	Chimtal and Balkh	16	16	100%
Deh Qazi Road	Balkh	Balkh	7	7	100%
Langarkhana Road	Balkh	Nahari-Shahee	18	18	100%
Yangi - Arigh Road	Balkh	Charbulak	9.5	9.5	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>96.9</b>	<b>96.9</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems and Water Management**  
**Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2005 - August 31, 2005**  
**Province: Nangarhar**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#18-0002-RSSA	February 17, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,853,594	\$0	\$1,853,594	\$94,164	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> RSSA rehabilitated the hydro technical, protection and division structures at the end point (6 Km) of Nangarhar canal and sub canals 29, 30, and 31. Through this project RSSA rehabilitated 10.3 km of irrigation canals, constructed 2 diversion dams, and rehabilitated 15.5 km of tertiary roads.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

- RSSA cleaned and de-silted 10.3 km of irrigation canals, and constructed two diversion dams on the Nangarhar Canal. The structures constructed by RSSA are effectively passing water downstream to the end of the main canal.
- The project also established water user associations to coordinate future maintenance of the irrigation system at the community level.
- Through its canal rehabilitation activities, RSSA restored irrigation to 6,000 hectares of land at the tail of the Nangarhar Valley Irrigation Development Project in Nangarhar Province.
- To improve farmers' access to trade along the Jalalabad-Torkham Highway, RSSA rehabilitated 15.5 km of three road segments in Muhmand Dara and Shinwar districts.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nangarhar Canal km 64 to km 70	Nangarhar	Shinwar	6	6	100%
Nangarhar Canal Sub Canal 30 and 31	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	4.3	4.3	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>10.3</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>100%</b>
Diversion Dam Construction	Province	District	Dams Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Flood Diversion Dam I Nangarhar Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1	1	100%
Flood Diversion Dam II Nangarhar Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Main Canal Road	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	6	6	100%
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Canal 29	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	5.5	5.5	100%
Jalalabad Torkham Highway to Canal 30, 31	Nangarhar	Muhmand Dara and Shinwar	4	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>15.5</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Repair of the Ghazni - Meray Access Road</b> <b>Ghazni Rural Support Program (GRSP)</b> <b>Life of Project: February 17, 2005 - November 30, 2005</b> <b>Province: Ghazni</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#19 and #22-0002-GRSP	May 25, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,107,375	\$0	\$1,107,375	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> GRSP has rehabilitated 26.6 km of Loman Qarabagh road and 55 km. of Jaghuri Malistan road. These roads provide access to the main Kabul-Kandahar highway from Ghazni, Andar and Qarabagh districts of Ghazni province.				

### Project Accomplishments

The Ghazni Meray Access Road links the on-going Jaghuri Malistan road project in Ghazni with the Kabul Kandahar road. Approximately 470,000 community members use the roads for exporting cash crops and agricultural products from Ghazni, Jaghuri, Ghazni, Malistan, Arjristan and Shahrstan region to urban markets at Kabul, Kandahar and other centers in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Ghazni Meray Access Road (Loman Qarabagh)	Ghazni	Qarabagh	26.6	26.6	100%
Jaghuri Malistan	Ghazni	Jaghuri and Malistan	55	55	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>81.6</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Before:** Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



**After:** Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



**Before:** Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.



**After:** Jaghuri district, Ghazni province.

**Reconstruction of Roads in Kunduz**  
**Partners in Revitalization and Building (PRB)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - August 31, 2005**  
**Province: Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#20-0002-PRB	February 17, 2004	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$869,652	\$0	\$869,652	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> PRB rehabilitated 55.9 km of primary and secondary roads in Imam Sahib district of Kunduz region.				

### ***Project Accomplishments***

PRB rehabilitated 10.8 km of Aaq Masjid, 23.4 km of Alif Berdi, and 4 km of Ismail Qishlaq road corridors in Imam Sahib district of Kunduz province. PRB also constructed 23 and 58 culverts respectively for the Aaq Masjid and Alif Berdi segments. The first two roads include the construction of 23 and 58 culverts respectively. Approximately 145,000 community members benefit from these improved roads.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Ismail Qishlaq	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	4	4	100%
Aaq Masjid	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	10.8	10.8	100%
Sayed Ahamad Shah Road	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	17.7	17.7	100%
Alif Berdi	Kunduz	Imam Sahib	23.4	23.4	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>55.9</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Irrigation Rehabilitation in Khewa District**  
**Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - March 31, 2005**  
**Province: Nangarhar**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#21-0002-STAAR	February 17, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$336,232	\$48,486	\$336,232	\$0	\$0

**Project Description:** STAAR completed rehabilitation of 30 km of canals in Khewa district of Nangarhar province and built canal intakes along the Kunar River at Koti Taran and Shigee. Works were built to protect canals from overland floods.

### **Project Accomplishments**

RAMP and STAAR designed this project to prepare for a new era of community economic growth with the aim of providing reliable irrigation to highly productive agriculture lands along the Kunar River. Through the cleaning and de-silting of 30 km of canal, STAAR effectively contributed to delivering water to 18,050 hectares of land, assisting more than 8,000 farm families.

STAAR began work in early February 2004, and continued up until June 30, 2004 when rising water levels in the Kunar River prohibited rehabilitation activities. Work resumed on October 1, 2004 and STAAR successfully completed all activities on the Shegee Intake and Kotai and Kachara main canal intakes by March 2005. On July 24, 2005, STAAR handed maintenance of the canal intakes to local and provincial authorities.



Segment of canal on Khewa, Nangarhar rehabilitated by STAAR.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Shegee Canal Intake	Nangarhar	Khewa	24	24	100%
Kotti/Tarran Intake	Nangarhar	Khewa	6	6	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Agricultural Production, Processing & Marketing Project**  
**Central Asia Development Group (CADG)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2004 - June 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: Hilmand, Khandahar/Zabul**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>RAMP Project Manage</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#23-0004-CADG	February 17, 2004	Atiqullah Mohibi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$6,414,318	\$600,695	\$4,730,718	\$269,282	\$1,414,318

**Project Description:** CADG is establishing demonstration farms, contract growing of selected crops, and providing technical assistance and expertise in the areas of agriculture, processing and marketing, application of technologies to crop development, and implementation of drip irrigation plots.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

#### ***Crop demonstrations and Protected Agriculture***

- CADG established 11 crop demonstrations (wheat, onion, and micro-nurseries) in Hilmand (1) and Kandahar (10).
- Harvested remaining crop demonstrations plots (including cauliflower, carrots, cabbage, and cucumbers) in Hilmand, Kandahar, and Zabul.
- Installed 66 Plastic tunnels in Hilmand (59) and Kandahar (7); farmers pay \$500 as their (20%) contribution with about \$2,000 paid through the CADG's subcontract with RAMP. The first tunnels that were planted have reaped good harvests of cucumbers at a time when market prices are good.
- Demand for greenhouses by farmers in Central Lashkargar and Nawa districts of Hilmand has been very high while in outlying districts the demand for greenhouses has been much less. CADG has subsequently established 4 plastic tunnels in these outlying districts to demonstrate their effectiveness.



Kandahar farmer inside CADG protected agriculture structure.

#### ***Pest Control***

- The results of the Sunn pest over-wintering survey indicated that Sunn pest is still a problem in all 10 surveyed, districts of Hilmand (Central, Gramseer, Kajaki, Marja, Musaqulla, Nad-i-Ali, Nawa, Nowzad, Nuhresiraj, and Sangin). The average Sunn pest infestation was 3 Sunn pest per square meter, with a range of 5.5 (Gramseer) to 2 (Musa Qulla).
- Sunn pest extension workers distributed to farmers 10,000 nets and brochures (in Pashtu) on Sunn pest control and trained 2,800 farmers in the mechanical control of Sunn pest



Farmers receiving mechanical pest control training from CADG agricultural extension agents.



### **Horticulture**

- CADG established 142 new fruit orchards (including the planting of 128,720 fruit trees) on 61 hectares of farmers' land. Budded trees have at last become an accepted requirement when establishing a fruit orchard.
- Established 14 new trellis vineyards on 14 farmers' 1-hectare plots.

### **Looking Forward**

- CADG will continue to implement the Sunn pest control campaign under different funding from RAMP.
- CADG will complete all project closeout activities prescribed by RAMP by the end of April.



Farmer standing by one of CADG's newly established trellises.

### **Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken**

- There has been very little adoption of trellis vineyards in Hilmand. The main reason for this is the high cost of establishing the trellises. At current input prices, it costs a farmer about \$500 per jerib (1 jerib equals .2 hectare) to establish a trellis vineyard. To most Hilmand farmers, this is very large investment. Only during the fifth year after establishing the trellis vineyard will the vineyard be in full production and able to start repaying the initial capital investment. This makes it far too risky and expensive for a farmer, especially if the farmer borrows money to establish the trellises.
- Security remains a serious problem as it is preventing extension workers from conducting field days. In Sangin district of Hilmand, one of CADG's extension workers was robbed of his satellite phone and his motorbike. The motorbike was subsequently found a short distance away, discarded after the robbers had crashed it into another vehicle. Farmers fear having CADG expatriates visit them in that it may bring unwanted attention. National extension workers are the only CADG staff visiting the farms and great measures are being taken to insure that a minimal number of people know that they work for an international aid organization.

### **Project Manager Comments**

- Along with their final report, CADG must submit a report on the impact of their marketing activities and an explanation of the processing and marketing assistance, they have provided processors and exporters of fruits and nuts.
- CADG will need to be in close contact with Noor Brothers (local agri-input supplier) who is supplying the Deltamethrin used to chemically control Sunn pest.
- Due to budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract, this subcontract's Ceiling Price will be reduced by approximately \$1,300,000.

**Agri-Input Dealer Training and Development Project**  
**International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC)**  
**Life of Project: February 17, 2004 – March 30, 2006**  
**Provinces: National**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#24-0004-IFDC	February 17, 2004	Abdul Samed Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,439,935	\$246,986	\$2,385,042	\$131,533	\$260,057

**Project Description:** IFDC has established a national net work of agri-input dealers, and 6 regional dealer associations. The project is providing training to 2,000 agri-input dealers and developing Ministry of Agriculture-approved extension material in improved cropping techniques and plant disease diagnosis/treatment. IFDC is also improving market transparency through analysis and dissemination of market information, and developing business linkages between Afghan and regional suppliers of agri-inputs.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- Conducted 3 agricultural input training sessions in Hilmand and Kandahar provinces.
- Coordinated a study tour with 8 input dealers and 3 IFDC project staff to India. The delegation visited the Fertilizer Association of India and large agricultural input manufacturers and suppliers, with whom the Afghan input dealers established business linkages.
- Established a national Agricultural Input Dealers Association, registered the Association with the Ministry of Justice, and prepared the Association's business plan.
- Assisted the 6, recently established, provincial agricultural input associations in improving their business management skills.
- Completed charts and leaflets on recommendations for insect control and discussed the dissemination with the MAF.
- Advocated with the agricultural input dealers and their associations for the elimination of the 2% tax charged by the Afghan Fertilizer Company.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

- There are increasing reports from dealers that some fertilizer products now entering the market are inferior quality. The specific product reported as being of questionable quality is being marketed under the brand name KAMEL. The label on the bag specifies it is an NPK grade (15-8-15). The product is of Iranian origin and is currently only being sold in Hirat. In order to assess the quality (nutrient content and bag weights) of fertilizer products being sold in Afghanistan, a fertilizer quality assessment study is planned.
- Security concerns have significantly hindered some fieldwork activities. Despite the insecurities, IFDC's local staff continues to conduct routine meetings in the provinces on a daily basis.
- Input dealers continue to experience serious security challenges from local thieves and area commanders. Hilmand, Kandahar, Nimroz, Zabul and Uruzgan have remained high-risk areas. Despite the insecurities, IFDC continues to meet regularly with input dealers.

### ***Looking Forward***

- All project activities of IFDC were completed by March 31, 2006. However, IFDC will be completing project closeout and their final report by the end of April.
- RAMP will continue to assist the National Agricultural Input Dealers Association in completing their by-laws.

### ***Project Manager Comments***




- IFDC's financial burn rate has been significantly lower than project for a period of 12 months. Due to this fact and budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract this subcontract's Ceiling Price will be reduced by approximately \$1,305,785 and Period of Performance was reduced by 3 months.






<b>Agriculture Sector Training in Afghanistan</b> <b>International Arid Lands Consortium/University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (IALC/UIUC)</b> <b>Life of Project: March 14, 2004 - June 30, 2005</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#25-0004-IALC/UIUC	March 14, 2004	Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$535,380	\$0	\$535,380	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> IALC and UIUC are providing education on the sustainable management and restoration of arid and semi-arid lands in Afghanistan by funding post-graduate Masters degree programs for 10 Afghan agriculturalists through the University of Peshawar, Pakistan.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

The ten Master's Degree students, five from the Faculty of Agriculture at Kabul University and five from the Faculty of Agriculture at Nangarhar University are continuing their education at the NWFPA Agricultural University, Peshawar, Pakistan. This program is being administered by the Field Office of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. All students have completed their required course work and are conducting research activities related to their thesis topics. The research activities of all participants will conclude by June 30, 2006.

In 2006, the students will take auxiliary courses in Computer Applications, Teaching Methodologies, Research Methodologies, and Operation & Maintenance of Research Stations.

	<b>Sakhidad Saleem</b>  B.Sc. 1991 in Plant Protection Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University Research Focus: Mycosis Associated with Root-Knot Nematode on Potato and Tomato in Kabul
	<b>Mohammad Saleem Rahimi</b>  B.Sc.:1990 in Plant Protection Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University Research Focus: Sunn pest
	<b>Hussain Gul</b>  B.Sc. 1999 in Agricultural Economics Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University Research Focus: Agricultural marketing issues of Afghanistan

	<p><b>Masood</b></p> <p>B.Sc:1998 in Horticulture and Forestry Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Floriculture</p>
	<p><b>Noor Mohammad</b></p> <p>B Sc: 1995 in Horticulture and Forestry Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Watershed managemet</p>
	<p><b>Najamuddin Najam</b></p> <p>B.Sc: 1985 in Plant Protection Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Kabul University. Research Focus: Plant protection</p>
	<p><b>Mohammad Bashir Dodial</b></p> <p>B.Sc: 1983 in Agricultural Extension Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Availability and Utilization of Agricultural Extension Services</p>
	<p><b>Abdul Wahab</b></p> <p>B.Sc: 1997 in Agronomy Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Oilseed crop (Brassica) through which he plans to develop canola variety.</p>
	<p><b>Saidajan Abdiani</b></p> <p>B.Sc: 1988 in Horticulture Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Vegetable Seed Production</p>
	<p><b>Mir Hatim Niazi</b></p> <p>B.Sc:1984 in Animal Science Currently Lecturer at the Faculty of Agriculture of Nangarhar University. Research Focus: Medicinal plants to replace antibiotics and vaccines.</p>

**Dried Vegetable Program**  
**Developments Works Canada (DWC)**  
**Life of Project: February 29, 2004 – June 30, 2006**  
**Province: Parwan**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#26-0004-DWC	February 29, 2004	Atiqullah Mohibi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,022,887	\$136,836	\$2,898,190	\$8,841	\$115,856

**Project Description:** DWC is developing dried vegetable agribusiness that includes the construction of a 6,200 square foot dehydration factory in Charikar, Parwan to be used for cleaning, dicing, and drying machinery, a warehouse, a small test laboratory, and a classroom for the research farm and training opportunities. DWC's activities and exports respond to an identified market demand in Europe for quality dehydrated vegetables.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

During the first quarter of 2006, DWC carried out the following activities:

- Shipped two containers of dried turnips to the UK.
- Provided extension advice to farmers contracted to grow coriander and cilantro.
- Stopped the processing of vegetables in order to maintain the equipment and machinery and until the first shipments of coriander and cilantro arrive to the factory.
- Met with the contracted farmers to discuss the formation of the Parwan Growers' Association.

### ***Looking Forward***

- As soon as DWC brings the coriander and cilantro from contracted farmers to the factory, the processing of vegetables will resume.
- Distribute the seeds of those vegetables (including courgettes, green beans, and leeks) that DWC would like to have the contracted farmers grow and sell to the factory.
- Ship dried coriander, cilantro, courgettes, green beans, and leeks to the buyers in UK.
- Assist in the establishment of the Parwan Growers' Association; integrate the 40% ownership of the Association into the Parwan Dehydrates Company.
- Follow all project closeout procedures prescribed by RAMP, including submission of final report, disposal plan for all assets, etc.



Vegetable dehydrates factory workers  
washing spinach.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

Because a significant percentage of the contracted farmers did not follow through on their contract with DWC to sell their vegetables to the factory, DWC must still find farmers who are eligible for becoming members of the Parwan Growers' Association and who will contribute their share of the investment capital to gain the 40% stake in the Parwan Dehydrates Company. DWC is meeting with the eligible farmers to try to get them to organize themselves into the Parwan Growers' Association.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

- Organizing the farmers into the Parwan Growers' Association is difficult because the contracted farmers do not recognize the benefits of forming the Association and from investing in the factory.



<b>Western Afghanistan Agribusiness Program</b> <b>Catholic Relief Services (CRS)</b> <b>Life of Project: March 14, 2004 - June 30, 2005</b> <b>Province: Hirat</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0004-CRS	March 14, 2004	Abdul Qudous	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$426,585	\$43,754	\$409,644	\$0	\$16,941
<b>Project Description:</b> CRS conducted demonstrations for the three high-value crops (tomatoes, cumin and saffron), trained extension workers who provided technical assistance to the farmers growing tomatoes, cumin, and saffron and provided training on strategic planning for the women's businesses and sanitation control. CRS developed the growth of small-scale agri-processing businesses, focusing particularly on women entrepreneurs. The organization linked processors and exporters with financial institutions (microfinance and banks) so they could apply for loans to expand their businesses.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

Following, are CRS' key accomplishments grouped by commodity – Tomato, Cumin, and Saffron. CRS was very effective in developing the growth of small-scale agri-processing businesses, focusing particularly on women entrepreneurs. The organization successfully linked processors and exporters with financial institutions (microfinance and banks) so they could apply for loans to expand their businesses.

#### **Tomato**

- Conducted 49 demonstrations of three improved varieties (Pearson, Super Chief, and PS Palmador). 12 extension workers provided technical assistance to the farmers growing tomatoes, cumin, and saffron in Injil and Guzara districts
- Constructed 60 greenhouse demonstrations (25m x 4m, each costing less than \$600/greenhouse) on farmers' fields in Injil and Guzara districts in Hirat province. CRS effectively linked those farmers interested in adopting the greenhouse technology demonstrated, with AKDN that offered credit of up to \$500 per greenhouse.
- Established 5 centers in Injil and Guzara for training 100 women in jam, juice concentrate, and tomato paste production. CRS focused the training on strategic planning for the women's businesses and sanitation control. CNFA is providing a hand-crank juicer for each woman. The local Super Cola factory in the Hirat Industrial Park agreed to supply (at a low price) juice bottles to the women's centers.
- Assisted 58 women in producing and selling tomato paste to a local retailer who is helping them improve their labeling.

#### **Cumin**

- Conducted 156 cumin demonstrations with farmers in Injil and Guzara districts.
- The test results on the 10-kg cumin sample sent to the US indicated that the cumin was high in volatile oil (a good thing) but there was some contamination that concerned the buyer who received the shipment. A follow-up, one-ton shipment of cumin was sent to a New Jersey (USA) buyer by CRS in collaboration with a cumin exporter. The buyer was ready to pay \$1,980/mt. The domestic market for cumin is very small while the international market is dominated by India, Syria, and Turkey. Last year, up to 1000 mt of cumin was exported to regional markets.
- Cumin continues to be cleaned at the plant owned by Ramin Zabadi in Hirat City. He received a working capital loan from the RAMP-supported Afghan International Bank (AIB) for purchasing cumin from the farmers - many of them receiving technical assistance from CRS. Most cumin brought by farmers or traders for cleaning has 5-10% foreign matter. The cleaning charges represent about 14% of the value of the cumin.

#### **Saffron**

- CRS conducted 10 saffron demonstrations with farmers in Injil and Guzara districts.
- The saffron produced by 10 farmers that CRS worked with was contaminated with e.coli. However, many international buyers irradiate the saffron before using it since most saffron is contaminated.



**Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project: Surveys and Designs**  
**Bakhtar Construction and Rehabilitation Agency (BCRC), Afghan Rehabilitation and**  
**Agriculture Organization (ARAO), Qoba Construction Company (QCC)**  
**Life of Project: February 13, 2005 - December 31, 2005**  
**Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27 - 0002-BCRC, ARAO, QCC	February 13, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$69,309	\$48,409	\$67,219	\$2,090	\$0

**Project Description:** CRS, BCRC, ARAO, and QCC have been conducting a range irrigation surveys and designing irrigation structures/bridges in Hirat province. The deliverables produced through these purchase orders contribute to the construction components carried out by other Implementing Partners contracted to rehabilitate irrigation systems in Hirat.

Through Job Order #27, RAMP manages several implementing partners who are working rehabilitate irrigation systems and bridges throughout Hirat province. By December 2005, RAMP's partners – BCRC, ARAO, and QCC – completed the following survey and design components of this multi-faceted infrastructure job order:

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

#### **BCRC – Design and Survey**

##### **Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$20,900**

BCRC's main activity was to conduct a preliminary survey of Injil and Guzara Canals, prepare a map showing location of canals, lengths, location of structures, weak points of canals, and describe condition of existing structures.

As its primary deliverables, BCRC prepared maps of the Injil and Guzara Canals, listing the locations of all irrigation structures, evaluating their existing condition and estimated rehabilitation cost, and a list number and names of villages and number of families benefiting from this irrigation project.

#### **ARAO – Design and Survey**

##### **Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$20,953**

ARAO conducted surveys and designs for a combined 32 km of road over 8 bridges crossing the Injil and Guzara canals in Hirat province.

#### **QCC – Design and Survey**

##### **Purchase Order Ceiling Price: \$27,456**

QCC established bench marks along the length of Guzara (approximate length - 70 km), Injil (approximate length - 45 km), and Haft Qutb (approximate length - km) canals, marked their specific locations on a map, recorded elevation of all existing structures, and illustrated cross sections for each canal at every 100 m or less



RAMP partners conducting surveys of existing irrigation systems in Hirat.



**Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project**  
**Batoor Design and Construction Incorporation (BDCI)**  
**Life of Project: November 25, 2005 – May 30, 2006**  
**Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-BDCI	November 25, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$489,997	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$449,997
<b>Project Description:</b> BDCI is constructing the Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct on Ziaratjah branch of the Guzara canal and Trishriza 2 aqueduct on Joi Malan branch of Guzara Canal. BDCI is also repairing the Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal aqueduct in Trishriza and constructing/repairing the Kurt Khujanur RCC aqueduct in Kurt Khujanur in Hirat province.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

BDCI started work in December 2005, building the temporary pipe aqueduct to maintain irrigation flow during construction for Trishriza 1 Arch aqueduct, and demolishing the old structure for the Kurt Khujanur 2.

Aqueduct construction/ repairing	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Trishriza 1	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work Ongoing	40%
Trishriza 2	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work Ongoing	40%
Kurt Khujanur	Hirat	Guzara	1	Work Ongoing	50%
Kurte Soflak Paymala Awal	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>58%</b>



BDCI laborers working on the Trishriza 1 aqueduct in Guzara, Hirat

**Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project**  
**Bureau of Design, Construction Implementing Services (BDCIS)**  
**Life of Project: February 13, 2005 to January 31, 2006**  
**Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-BDCIS	November 23, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$400,000	\$98,460	\$390,000	\$10,000	\$0

**Project Description:** BDCIS surveyed 12 bridges on the Guzara and Injil canals and subsequently created construction designs for 10 bridges. BDCIS has completed construction of six bridges crossing these canals.

### ***Project Accomplishments***

From February 2005 to January 2006, BDCIS built/rehabilitated six bridges crossing the Injil and Guzara Canals in Hirat province. Thanks to these activities, farmers can more easily transport agriculture products to market.

Bridge construction / rehabilitation	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kurt e Shalikhana bridge, Guzara Canal	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
Tariak vehicle bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Tariak foot bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Abdul Baqi Khan bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Sofiabad bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
Ghafar bridge, Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100%</b>

The following photos illustrate the significant and lasting impact RAMP is having on rural communities in Afghanistan.



Kurt e Shalikhana Bridge, crossing the Guzara Canal in Hirat province.  
 Before (left) and after (right) construction.





Tariak Foot Bridge crossing Injil Canal in Hirat province.  
Before (left) and after (right) RAMP construction.



Tariak Vehicle Bridge crossing Injil Canal in Hirat province.  
Before (left) and after (right) RAMP construction.



Ghafar Bridge crossing Injil Canal in Hirat province.  
Before (left) and after (right) RAMP construction.

<b>Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project</b> <b>Reconstruction Authority for Afghanistan (RAFA)</b> <b>Life of Project: February 13, 2005 – May 31, 2006</b> <b>Province: Hirat</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-RAFA	February 13, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$431,829	\$19,348	\$124,683	\$0	\$307,146
<b>Project Description:</b> RAFA is constructing water control and sediment flush-out structures for Injil and Haft Qulb Canals in Hirat province				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

Last year RAFA carried out some precautionary measures to protect the Injil canal from flooding last year. The activities included construction of temporary diversion and canal embankments to ensure canal flooding would not damage neighboring villages.

Since December 2005, RAFA has been conducting topographic surveys and constructing water control and sediment flush out structures for Injil and Haft Qulb Canals in Hirat province.

Water Control Structure Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	1	Work Ongoing	71%
Haft Qulb	Hirat	Injil	1	Work Ongoing	77%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100%</b>

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

RAFA encountered some difficulties with the local community near their project sites. The community members requested financial compensation and for RAFA to conduct additional work on the canal to prevent flooding in other areas. The concerned parties held a series of meetings with with district officials, RAMP and RAFA representatives to address their concerns. After several discussions RAMP approved some of their demand in terms of approving additional works to be carried out in Injil canal intake site and Haft Qulb canal protection wall.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Although problems with community and seasonal raining hindered the smooth progress of the project activities for several weeks, RAFA readjusted the implementation plan to make sure the project is completed within the proposed time duration. RAFA on schedule to complete these strcutres by the end of its contract in May 2006.



## Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project

Enkeshaf Abady Construction Company (EACC)

Life of Project: July 17, 2005 - December 30, 2005

Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-EACC	July 17, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$116,068	\$48,186	\$77,060	\$16,284	\$22,724

**Project Description:** EACC is reconstructing/rehabilitating 4 bridges – Chal Nashin, Khalifa, Ghazi, and Molay Moazen - on the Guzara canal in Hirat province.

### *Project Accomplishments this Quarter*

EACC has completed all 4 bridges it was contracted to complete under this job order in Guzara district of Hirat.

Bridge Reconstruction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Chal Nashin Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
Khalifa Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
Ghazi Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
Molay Moazen Bridge	Hirat	Guzara	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>



Chal Nashin Bridge completed by EACC in Guzara, Hirat.



Laborers completing work on the Molay Moazen Bridge.

**Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project**  
**Social & Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation (STAAR)**  
**Life of Project: November 22, 2005 - May 30, 2006**  
**Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-STAAR	November 22, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$417,613	\$65,701	\$96,716	\$61,483	\$259,414

**Project Description:** STAAR is constructing Bande Rig Siphon on Injil Canal crossing under Pashtan Wash located in Hirat province and sited on Injil canal. The siphon will carry water across the dry wash in a concrete flume, to regulate water flow and accumulation, and prevent flooding of the canal and damage to the neighboring village.

### *Accomplishments this Quarter*

- During the first quarter of 2006, STAAR completed 85% of the excavation necessary to construct the water control structures at the project site.
- Completed 80% of the masonry work of the 5-meter retaining walls for the inlet and outlet structures.
- Constructed 4 temporary diversions (Injil canal, Inlet, Outlet, and Ferk Wash) with sandbags to ensure water does not flood the worksite.

Siphon Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Bande Rig Siphon	Hirat	Injil	1	Work Ongoing	35%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35%</b>

Laborers excavating project site at canal inlet by hand.



Completed protection wall at canal inlet.



## Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project

Taraqi Construction Company (TCC)

Life of Project: December 14, 2005 - March 30, 2006

Province: Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-TCC	December 14, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$231,853	\$23,185	\$98,046	\$110,621	\$23,186
<b>Project Description:</b> TCC is constructing 3 water dividers (Balan Mogolan, Ghizan, and Jakan) and 31 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.				

### *Accomplishments this Quarter*

By March 2006, TCC had completed all contracted tasks under this Job Order. The construction of the 3 water dividers and 31 outlets prevent leakage of the canals, and ensure that farmers downstream receive an equal distribution of irrigative water.

Water Divider / Outlet Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal Water Dividers	Hirat	Injil	3	3	100%
Injil Canal Outlets	Hirat	Injil	31	31	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>34</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100%</b>

TCC laborers laying stone for water control outlet on Injil canal.



Completed Ghizan water divider on the Injil canal in Hirat.



**Western Afghanistan Irrigation Rehabilitation Project**  
**Afghan Rehabilitation and Agricultural Organization (ARAO)**  
**Life of Project: December 14, 2005 - March 30, 2006**  
**Province: Hirat**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#27-0002-ARAO	December 14, 2005	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$181,331	\$18,133	\$102,941	\$60,257	\$18,133

**Project Description:** ARAO is constructing 2 retaining walls, 2 water dividers and 15 outlets from Station 20+622 up to Station 25+951 of the Injil canal in Hirat province.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

By March 2006, ARAO had completed all contracted tasks under this Job Order.

Retaining Wall Construction	Province	District	Walls Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	2	2	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>
Water Divider Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	2	2	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>
Outlet Construction	Province	District	Structures Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Injil Canal	Hirat	Injil	15	15	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>



Kajgard retaining wall constructed by ARAO on the Injil canal in Hirat



<b>Grain Postharvest Training, Storage and Milling in Afghanistan</b> <b>The Grain Industry Alliance</b> <b>Life of Project: March 14, 2004 to June 30, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Kunduz, Hilmand, Parwan, Nangarhar, Ghazni, Kabul, Kandahar, Hirat</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#28-0002-GIA	March 14, 2004	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$3,711,820	\$563,059	\$3,102,547	\$301,280	\$307,993
<b>Project Description:</b> : GIA is providing training opportunities and demonstration sites for local communities in grain cleaning, storage and handling of grain, developing community level storage sites, full scale farm demonstration units and small farm demonstration units. GIA is working to strengthen farmer and trader associations, linking them with financial services providers so they can operate as self-sufficient entities. Additionally, GIA is working with other RAMP partners to establish a network of warehouses and refrigerated storage and transport facilities to reduce spoilage rates of fresh produce.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter – categorized by province***

#### **Kabul Province**

- GIA continued to collect weekly commodity price information, and met with Kabul Radio to discuss arrangements for the regular broadcasting of commodity prices.
- Enrolled representatives from GIA's agro-processing projects, including the Karokh Women's Association, the Adrasken District Widows' Association, the Hirat Traders' Association, and the Hirat Ice Cream Factory in RAMP partner Flag International's business plan development workshop.
- Facilitated the importation of 53 cold rooms from Argentina. In the next quarter, GIA will install the storage facilities and transfer management over to trained trade association members.

#### **Kunduz Province**

- Conducted the Master Trainers' Training program on post-harvest grain handling, storage and management. The purpose of the training was to upgrade the knowledge and enhance the professional skills of 12 Management and Operations personnel of the Crop Producers Associations, ICARDA's Village-Based Seed Enterprises (VBSE), flour millers, and others involved in post-harvest grain handling, storage and management.
- GIA received 20 USAID-donated forty-foot containers for use on the project. 9 containers were distributed to Crop Producer Associations and the Kunduz Flour Mill.
- 2 unused holding bins were moved from Parwan to Kunduz Province and installed for the VBSEs in Ali Abad and Archi districts.



GIA Master Trainer course participants are performing physical tests of grain samples at the Farmer Association at the Chardara warehouse in Kunduz.

#### **Kandahar Province**

- GIA completed construction on The Kandahar Dried Fruit Lab for Export and Promotion Department. Management of the lab has subsequently been handed over to Mr. Rafiqi, Director of the Kandahar Chamber of Commerce.
- Construction of The Kandahar Export Promotion warehouse is 80% complete.
- Construction of The Kandahar Dried Fruit Export Promotion Association warehouse is 95% complete.



### **Hilmand Province**

- GIA provided assistance to the Bolan Farmers' Association, the Hilmand Traders' Association, and the Hilmand Widows' Association in development of their business plans.
- Construction of The Bolan Farmers Association building is now 85% complete.
- Developed payment mechanism where The Bolan Farmers Association and the Hilmand Traders' Association contributed 50% of the cost of the cold rooms they are receiving.
- The construction work of Nad-i-Ali Farmers' Association is now 85% complete.



### **Hirat Province**

- GIA's construction work of the Karokh Widow Association building is now 90% complete.
- Coordinated with the Hirat Ice Cream Factory in providing training to members of the Widows' Association for operating their dairy plant. Transported and installed a 400 kg/day ice cream processing machine at the Widows' Dairy Processing Plant.

GIA is working to leverage development funds in cooperation with the PRT in Hilmand and the Nadi Ali Farmers Association to build a multi-purpose warehouse in Hilmand.

### **Looking Ahead**

- The remaining cold rooms (48) will be installed in prescribed locations where the owners have contributed 50% (except for the Widows' Associations) and business plans have been completed.
- Construction of the Bolan Farmers' Association, the Nad-i-Ali Farmers' Association, the Kandahar Dried Fruit Exporters' Association, the Hirat Fruit Traders' Association, the Hilmand Widows' Association, the Lashkargah Traders' Association, and the Karokh Widows' Association warehouses will be completed.
- Business plans will be completed for all GIA-supported associations and the association members trained in implementation of the plans.
- Two generator sets (30 to 40 KW) will be purchased and installed to run the dairy processing plant.
- Packaging materials will be purchased for the widows' dairy processing plant.
- GIA will send 2 Afghan technicians to Argentina to receive training in assembling, installing, operating, and managing cold rooms.

### **Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken**

- Since the organizational capacity of the farmers' and traders' associations that own the storage and/or processing plants is weak, significant technical assistance will be needed to improve the handling, sorting, grading, storing, processing, and packaging of their agricultural produce and to transform the associations into viable and sustainable entities.
- The Crop Producers' Association in Kunduz will be sharing their storage warehouses with the Village-Based Seed Enterprises in Khan Abad, Imam Sahib, and Char Dara Districts of Kunduz Province. GIA will provide technical assistance and training to help them work together for mutual gain in storing especially seed wheat until the planting time in the fall.

### **Project Manager Comments**

- More training on cold room operation and management will be needed by GIA to develop the associations into sustainable warehousing/processing businesses.
- GIA should disperse market information efficiently and effectively to the Crop Producers' Associations, the Village-Based Seed Enterprises, and other farmer and/or trader associations involved in timely marketing of their agricultural products.
- RAMP will be increasing the Ceiling Price of GIA's subcontract by approximately \$800,000 so it can expand its cold storage program into a more effective network of facilities.

## Grape Revitalization for Afghanistan Productivity and Empowerment Roots of Peace (RoP)

Life of Project: March 15, 2004 - June 30, 2006

Provinces: Parwan, Samangan, Hilmand, Kandahar

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#29-0004-RoP	March 15, 2004	Abdul Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$5,899,252	\$867,256	\$5,161,975	\$375,813	\$737,277

**Project Description:** RoP is providing technical assistance to Afghan grape and nut producers, and training for Ministry of Agriculture extension agents; developing model farms demonstrating best practices; creating market/collection centers; establishing farmer-owned businesses and farmer/trader associations; and promoting commercial sales management to re-establish and develop local, regional, and international markets. RoP activities have led to exports to the following markets: India, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates (Dubai).

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

During 2006, RoP carried out the following activities related to grape and raisin agriculture extension services and marketing, and nut extension services marketing.

#### ***Grape and Raisin Extension***

##### **Parwan**

- RoP's 25 extension workers provided technical assistance to 2,739 farmers. Recruited two additional extension agents.
- Established 87 trellising demonstrations on Taiffee variety grapes
- Rehabilitated 45 traditional Kishmish Khana (mud houses for drying grapes) and assisted farmers in more efficiently drying there grapes to green raisins
- Assisted farmers in harvesting 14.5 mt of green raisins from the RoP-promoted, wooden, Kishmish Khanas; a survey of the green raisins sold by farmers indicated that the they sold their green raisins for twice the price of red raisins
- Located possible sources of grafting material of Taiffee variety grapes. Taiffee is marketed as a fresh table grape and it commands a higher price on the local market than the traditional raisin-type grapes. Farmers were instructed (via field days) on the added value of Taiffee and have planted 290 jeribs (58 hectares) with Taiffee cultivars.
- More than 45,000 cuttings of the grape variety Shindokani were collected and transported from Kandahar to Bagram Market Center. This planting material will be used in March for the establishment of local private nurseries in Shamali Plains.
- Established 560 trellised demonstration plots utilizing 4600 concrete poles
- Conducted the microfinance workshop in cooperation with FINCA at Mirbachakot Market Centre on February 16 to discuss loans to farmers for installing trellising with concrete posts

##### **Kandahar**

- RoP extension workers provided technical assistance to 423 farmers. Recruited one more extension officer and 11 extension helpers for Kandahar province. These helpers are experienced farmers nominated (with 50% of salary paid by FFEAK and 50% of salary paid by RoP) by the Fresh Fruit Exporters' Association (FFEAK) and hired to help improve the grape crop quality for export.
- Established 155 demo plots for grapes
- Extension workers focused on preparing for the coming crop season, constructing of new Kishmish Khanas for green raisin production, finding mother gardens for purchasing multiplication wood, finding farmers wanting to install trellising, and establishing nurseries in farmers' vineyards.

### ***Grape and Raisin Marketing***

- Provided technical assistance to Nader Naseri who was processing 120 mt of high quality raisins that were exported to the Ukraine.
- Assisted Afghan exporters process and export 180 mt of red raisins to Ukraine and Moscow
- Assisted the Bedak Farmers' Association, owner and operator of the Mirbachakot Fresh Fruit Processing Center, in registering as a legal association
- Arranged for Afghan green raisins to be presented to international buyers at the 31st Winter Fancy Food Show in San Francisco, held from January 22-24, 2006.
- RoP, with the assistance of Mr. Moqamuddin Siraj, RAMP's Senior Food Technologist, introduced a test (designed by the US-FDA) of grit in raisins and initiated its use by the Raisin and Other Dried Fruits Export Institute. Tests on randomly drawn samples of raisins from Afghan raisin processing plants showed levels of grit in processed raisins ranging from 250mg/100gm to 400mg/100gm (milligrams of grit per 100 grams of product). The allowable level of grit in raisins sold in the USA is 40mg/100gm.
- Assisted a Ukrainian and an Afghan trading company in planning a test shipment of 20 mt of Afghan green raisins to the Ukraine.

### ***Nut Extension***

- Initiated a women-only nut production extension program. 152 women participated in field days demonstrating almond tree pruning techniques.
- 2,939 men and 1,426 women participated in RoP nut production training programs, including training in winter pest-control spraying (pyrethrum-based insecticide), pruning, and use of bees for pollination. The spraying and pruning demonstrations were done in farmer's orchards and involved 5,923 trees.
- Organized 1135 almond producers in Parwan and Samangan into 39 associations. The total number of associations, members, and trees owned by the members are 55 associations, 1,899 members, and 208,252 trees, respectively. Assuming an average of 20 kg almonds per tree, the members of these associations control about 4,000 mt of almonds.
- Placed 106 bee hives and demonstrated the use of bees to pollinate almond trees by renting bee hives from local bee keepers and placing them in selected demonstration orchards.
- Hired 12 MAF extension agents (7 in Parwan and 5 in Samangan) to assist the RoP nut program extension agents reach more almond farmers.



RoP Nuts Program Extension Leader giving instruction to farmers about chemical liquid preparation to be sprayed on almond trees.



Sorting and processing of nuts after delivery to merchants warehouse in Kabul

**Nut Marketing**

- Introduced the presidents of the 39 nut farmer groups to nut exporters in Kabul and Balkh. This was the first step in setting up direct marketing relations between the farmer groups and large-scale exporters.
- Facilitated the almonds sales (6 mt) from almond farmers to Kabul exporters at a price about 10% higher than harvest-time prices.
- Completed a manual (to be translated into Dari and Pashtu) to assist Afghan nut processors select packaging equipment.
- Completed and distributed the logo "Grown in Afghanistan" for use by Afghan nut exporters on their packages of nuts and dried fruit.
- Conducted a trade mission to India, China, and Korea, as a follow-up to the nut market study work conducted by RAMP partner CADG.



Logo developed by RoP for nut and dried fruit exporters.

**Looking Forward**

- Install new nut processing lines from California for the 3 nut processing associations in Kandahar, Kabul, and Balkh. Train processors in using the equipment.
- Establish at least 2,700 more concrete posts as demonstration trellises in private farms in the Shamali Plains of Parwan province.
- Complete production of all agricultural extension material in both Dari and Pashtu.
- Continue extension services to grape and nut producers in Kandahar, Parwan, and Samangan provinces
- Continue assisting processors and exporters with red and green raisin sales to Ukraine and Moscow.

**Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken**

- The Nut Processors Association in Balkh had various internal conflicts that were slowing and eventually stopping the construction of the nut processing building. RoP and RAMP staff spent many hours assisting the Nut Processors Association in resolving their internal conflicts. After resolving some critical issues, the Association has gone forward and has nearly finished the construction of the building.
- Problems with security in Kandahar (city and rural) has affected the daily activity and level of accomplishments of the extension staff.

**Project Manager Comments**

- RoP needs to assist Producer and/or Trader Associations in developing business plans for operating the Bagram and Laghmani warehouses in Charikar, Parwan.
- The nut processing lines need to be quickly installed in the three nut association buildings in Balkh, Kabul, and Kandahar and training provided to the three nut processor associations and other interested nut processors.
- RAMP will be increasing the Ceiling Price of RoP's subcontract by \$223,505 to continue their work with grape production and processing in Parwan.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

<b>Locust Control Program Northern Afghanistan</b> <b>GOAL</b> <b>Life of Project: March 11, 2004 - December 31, 2004</b> <b>Provinces: Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Takhar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#31-004-GOAL	March 11, 2004	A. Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$423,383.38	\$0	\$ 423,383.38	\$0	\$0
<b>Project description:</b> GOAL implemented a program to mitigate the impact of Moroccan locusts on rural livelihoods in Northern Afghanistan. Key activities included the chemical control of locusts with the provision of technical support, plastic sheeting, nets, barrels for water, ploughs and tents; mobilization of the rural population to areas of locust infestation, through the provision of transportation; full logistical support to the FAO and Ministry of Agriculture for chemical control intervention; monitoring of locust-infested sites and program advances through constant feedback, crop damage assessments, and locust egg-bed surveys; and final evaluation and provision of data for the locust database, the FAO, and AIMS.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

From March to December 2004, FAO and GOAL worked together through RAMP Job Orders 30 and 31 to control locust infestations in northern Afghanistan, and to renovate the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. Renovations at the laboratory are now complete and allow the MAF to more effectively identify crop pests and diseases.

### **Locust Control**

FAO and GOAL received pesticide from other donor sources (not USAID), and treated hatching beds throughout the regions. The partners recognized good results using diflubenzuron.

### **Sunn pest**

FAO and GOAL provided training to Sunn pest control extension workers in Jawzjan (14) and Sar-i-Pol (13) and Faryab (19).

The project also funded a ten-day mission by the President of PPQD and three of his staff, to enable them to participate in the training courses and the surveys. Very large numbers of *Dolycoris* (a species of Sunn pest) have been observed migrating from the hibernation sites and the local authorities are extremely concerned at the prospect of heavy damage.

FAO and GOAL distributed 12 motor-cycles to extension workers, enabling them to more effectively monitor pest control activities. Those monitors who own their own motorcycles were offered \$50 per month for the use of them until the new ones ordered by the project are delivered.



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**PROJECT COMPLETED**

<b>Locust Control Program, Northern Afghanistan</b> <b>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</b> <b>Life of Project: March 11, 2004 – December 31, 2004</b> <b>Project Sites: Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Takhar</b>				
<i><b>Job Order No.</b></i>	<i><b>Date of Award</b></i>	<i><b>Project Manager</b></i>	<i><b>USAID CTO</b></i>	<i><b>USAID CO</b></i>
JO#30-0004-FAO	March 11, 2004	Abdul Samad Nazari	Daniel Miller	Kyle Newkirk
<i><b>Ceiling Price</b></i>	<i><b>Quarter Expenditures</b></i>	<i><b>Cumulative Expenditures</b></i>	<i><b>Accruals to Date</b></i>	<i><b>Balance</b></i>
\$606,651	\$0	\$606,651	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> FAO implemented emergency locust control activities in northern Afghanistan and renovated the laboratory of the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry.				

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**PROJECT COMPLETED**

<b>Green Kabul Program</b> <b>United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)</b> <b>Life of Project: March 10, 2004 - November 30, 2005</b> <b>Province: Kabul</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#32-004-UNOPS	March 10, 2004	M. Alem Alemi	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,038,595	\$38,302	\$1,038,595	\$16,358	\$0
<b>Project description:</b> UNOPS procured and distributed approximately 1 million trees throughout Kabul. Its key activities included: planting fruit and forestry trees in various public locations throughout Kabul, including schools, government buildings, parks, roadsides, and the Kabul Green Belt; organizing Kabul Green Week activities, including public events, children's activities, receptions, entertainment, and education; and coordinating an ongoing public information campaign to raise public awareness of environmental issues in Afghanistan.				

### ***Project Accomplishments***

UNOPS completed this project in November 2005, and successfully distributed 170,000 Trees in and around Kabul at the following locations.

<b>Location of Tree Distribution</b>	<b>Number of Trees Distributed</b>
Within Municipality	40,000
Kabul Green Belt	40,485
Residential/Public/Ministries in Kabul	89,515

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**PROJECT COMPLETED**

<b>Repair of the Fil Koh Chute</b> <b>Gulsan Cucurova</b> <b>Life of Project: April 7, 2004 - May 8, 2004</b> <b>Province: Kandahar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#33-0002-Gulsan	April 7, 2004	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$45,000	\$0	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> GULSAN-Cucurova assessed the damage and repaired the Fil Koh chute in Kandahar province to protect irrigation for 45,000 hectares.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

The Fil Koh chute is part of an irrigation/hydroelectric project that was implemented by USAID long before the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. As a result of military action, the chute was damaged, threatening approximately 35,000 hectares with disruption of irrigation.

Former Governor Pashton of Kandahar province confirmed that the repair of the Fil Koh chute was an immediate priority for reconstruction. USAID repair efforts were coordinated with representatives of the Japanese government, who were in the process of developing their master plan for rehabilitating the Kandahar agriculture sector.



The damaged Fil Koh chute before repairs

The repair effort was more complicated than anticipated, due to undermining of the structure by attempts to run water through the chute while damaged. Gulsan Cucurova's repair work proceeded quickly, starting in April 2004 and was completed in time for farmers to start planting for the 2004 crop cycle.

Irrigation Structure Repair	Province	District	Structure Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Fil Koh chute	Kandahar	Arghandab	1	1	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>



The Fil Koh chute after GHULSAN-Cucurova repaired the structure.

### **Project Manager Comments**

This project was the result of good planning and collaboration. Because the GULSAN-Cucurova group was already in the region working on other contracts, they were able to dedicate resources to this project at very low overhead cost.

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**PROEJCT TERMINATED**

<b>Agricultural Produce Market Centers</b> <b>Relief International (RI)</b> <b>Life of Project : April 18, 2004 - September 30, 2004</b> <b>Province: Nangarhar</b>				
<i><b>Job Order No.</b></i>	<i><b>Date of Award</b></i>	<i><b>Project Manager</b></i>	<i><b>USAID CTO</b></i>	<i><b>USAID CO</b></i>
JO#34-0002-RI	April 15, 2004	James Huddleston	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i><b>Ceiling Price</b></i>	<i><b>Quarter Expenditures</b></i>	<i><b>Cumulative Expenditures</b></i>	<i><b>Accruals to Date</b></i>	<i><b>Balance</b></i>
\$252,765	\$0	\$252,765	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> RI built small Market Collection Centers (MCCs) at 19 locations in Nangarhar and designed a larger Agricultural Produce Market Center (APMC) that was planned to receive produce from the MCCs.				

### ***Project Accomplishments***

RI built small market collection centers (MCCs) at 19 locations in Nangarhar to provide shade for produce gathered from fields at harvest time. RI also designed typical Agricultural Produce Market Centers (APMCs) that were planned to receive produce from the MCCs and other production units.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

<b>Reclaiming Salinized and Waterlogged Farmland</b> <b>International Foundation for Hope (IF Hope)</b> <b>Life of Project: May 23, 2004 - April 30, 2006</b> <b>Province: Nangarhar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#35-IFHope	May 23, 2004	M. Ibrahim Sultani	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,991,846	\$352,726	\$1,489,915	\$0	\$501,931
<b>Project Description:</b> IF Hope has cleaned and dredged silt deposits from 115.5 kilometers of blocked drainage ditches in two areas of highly productive irrigated agriculture in Nangarhar Province. Dredged spoil is to be used to rehabilitate roadways along the drains.				

### Project Accomplishments

During the first quarter of 2006, IF Hope completed all of its contracted activities under RAMP. IF Hope has rehabilitated 115.5 kilometers of drains in Bati Kot and Muhmand districts of Nangarhar, improving the irrigation of 13,700 hectares of farmland.

Drain Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Nangarhar and Kama Drainage system	Nangarhar	Bati Kot, Kama and Muhmand Dara	115.5	115.5	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>115.5</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Project Manager Comments

IF Hope was under budget in completing its activities, and RAMP has subsequently reduced its subcontract ceiling price by \$240,000. Over the next months, IF Hope will be conducting its administrative closeout of this project and submit its final invoices and reports.



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PROJECT COMPLETED

<b>Roads for Nangarhar</b> <b>Humanitarian Assistance Development Foundation (HADF), Relief International (RI)</b> <b>Life of Project: January 1, 2005 - November 31, 2005</b> <b>Province: Nangarhar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-HADF, RI	January 1, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$737,396	\$202,807	\$737,396	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> HADF and RI collectively rehabilitated 44.5 km of road in Kama district of Nangarhar province.				

### Project Accomplishments

- HADF finished rehabilitating 34.5 kilometer of roads in Kama district by November 2005.
- The traffic from Lal Pur, Ghosta and Kama districts to Nangarhar Kunar highway passing through the main feeder road has been diverted to the recently rehabilitated Land Bouch road – as the surface is much smoother.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Kama Ghosta	Nangarhar	Kama	10	10	100%
Kama Ghosta	Nangarhar	Kama	10	10	100%
Landa Booch	Nangarhar	Kama	10.45	10.45	100%
Zarshoe	Nangarhar	Kama	5.45	5.45	100%
Qalae Akhun Sangarsrai	Nangarhar	Kama	6.65	6.65	100%
Arbaban Kalaiakhun	Nangarhar	Kama	1.95	1.95	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>44.5</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>100%</b>

To highlight differences to road surface before and after rehabilitation, the following pictures were taken on the same segments of road before and after rehabilitation.



Before



After



Before



After

***Project Manager Comments***

During the rehabilitation of roads, local people have donated their valuable asset, their land, to increase the width of the roads from 4 to 6.5 meter. This illustrates the high demand for rehabilitation of rural roads; the sacrifice of productive lands for public works is only grudgingly granted or refused normally.

The results of the California Bearing Ratio tests (a standard test of compaction of the road surface) taken on these roads were greater than 90 percent, far greater than our required standard of 60 percent.

Since HADF has demonstrated that they have the ability to construct roads to our standards and specifications, and to negotiate adequate rights-of-way with local communities, they have been awarded the contract for the rehabilitation of an additional 13 km. of the Shergar Road in Kama District. Negotiations are currently ongoing with HADF for the rehabilitation of 44 km. of roads in Momamdara, Battikot and Ranikhel districts of Nangarhar.

During the dedication ceremony of 24.1 kilometer of roads in Kama district held on 8 November 2005, Mr. C.A.P. Corstan from the PRT congratulated RAMP/HADAF for constructing gravel roads with high standards.

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**PROJECT COMPLETED**

<b>Irrigation System Protection</b> <b>Reconstruction and Social Services for Afghanistan (RSSA)</b> <b>Life of Project: July 1, 2005 to December 5, 2005</b> <b>Province: Nangarhar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#36-0002-RSSA	July 1, 2005	Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$426,565	\$139,572	\$405,239	\$0	\$21,327
<b>Project Description:</b> RSSA is rehabilitating a 5 km section of sub canal 29 of Nangarhar's Main canal. Additionally, RSSA will rehabilitate 5 km of road that runs parallel to the canal, and construct/fill a 1,300 m river embankment along the road to prevent future erosion from floods.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

By January 2006, RSSA had completed all contacted activities under this job order.

Canal Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Canals Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	5	5	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100%</b>
Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km of Roads Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Road parallel to sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	5	5	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100%</b>
Embankment Construction	Province	District	M of Embankment Constructed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Parallel to sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar Main Canal	Nangarhar	Shinwar	1,300	1,300	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>1,300</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>100%</b>

### ***Project Manager Comments***

By completion of this project the rehabilitation program of RAMP for restoring irrigation supply to 6,000 hectares of land that was damaged by flood and not getting water for the last 16 years will be completed. An additional 2000 hectares will be protected from floods.

The following pictures are of RSSA laborers constructing the 1,300 meter embankment along the road parallel to Sub Canal 29 of Nangarhar's main canal.



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<b>Roads for Nangarhar</b> <b>Afghan Bureau for Reconstruction (ABR), Design and Construction Group (DCG),</b> <b>AfghanAid (AAD), Alys Afghan Construction Co. (AACC),</b> <b>Humanitarian Assistance Development Foundation (HADF)</b> <b>Life of Project: September 8, 2005 – June 30, 2006</b> <b>Province: Nangarhar</b>				
<b>Job Order No.</b>	<b>Date of Award</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>USAID CTO</b>	<b>USAID CO</b>
JO#36+#38-0002- ABR, DCG, AAD, AACC, HADF	September 8, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<b>Ceiling Price</b>	<b>Quarter Expenditures</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenditures</b>	<b>Accruals to Date</b>	<b>Balance</b>
\$1,216,754	\$162,659	\$768,953	\$124,037	\$323,764
<b>Project Description:</b> Throughout Nangarhar, ABR is rehabilitating 24.15 km of road in Pachir Wa Agam district, DCG has rehabilitated 26.8 km of road in Shinwar and Beshood districts, AAD has rehabilitated 5 km or road in Rodat district, AACC is rehabilitating 21.3 km of road in Sherzad and Khogiani districts, and HADF has rehabilitated 13 km of road in Kama district.				

Under Job Order #36 and #38, 5 RAMP partners are rehabilitating approximately 90 kilometers of non-congruent farm-to-market roads throughout Nangarhar province. By March 2006, these road projects were 86% complete. The following table reports the status of the various components of these Job Orders implemented by ABR, DCG, AAD, AACC and HADF.

Road Segment	District	RAMP Partner	Subcontract Value	Km Completed		% Complete
				Target	Actual	
Agam Centre Giri Khel	Pachir Wa Agam, Nangarhar	ABR (JO#36)	\$462,188	12.5	6.72	56%
District Centre Bamakhil	Pachir Wa Agam, Nangarhar			3.15	3.15	100%
Zamarkhil Mourgi	Pachir Wa Agam, Nangarhar			2	2	100%
District Centre Mir Afjali Zyarat	Pachir Wa Agam, Nangarhar			6.5	6	92%
Nahr-e- Shahi, Khushgunbad	Behsood, Nangarhar	DCG (JO#36)	\$496,239	9.3	9.3	100%
Gullaee	Shinwar, Nangarhar			9.1	9.1	100%
Grhabawa- Anbar Khana	Shinwar, Nangarhar			8.4	8.4	100%
Saiphon Lagarjoi	Rodat, Nangarhar	AAD (JO#38)	\$140,000	5	5	100%
Akram Khil – Mourga	Sherzad	AACC (JO#38)	\$374,021	9	7.3	81%
Sra Qala- Qailaghow	Khogiani			3.25	3.25	100%
Kaja Wazir	Khogiani			3.9	2.9	74%
Wazir Dosaraka- Karam Khil	Khogiani			1.8	1	56%
Hadria - Shikhano	Khogiani			3.35	3	0%
Shirgar	Kama, Nangarhar	HADF (JO#38)	\$240,545	13	13	100%
Total:			\$754,566	89.9	77.12	86%



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<b>Roads for Balkh</b> <b>Agency for Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation In Afghanistan ( AREA)</b> <b>Life of Project: November 22, 2005 - February 28, 2006</b> <b>Province: Balkh</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#38-0002-AREA	November 22, 2005	Saroj Basnyet	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$90,931	\$28,718	\$34,678	\$38,800	\$17,453
<b>Project Description:</b> AREA is rehabilitating 5.7 km of road in Balkh district of the same province.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

AREA has subgraded and laid gravel on 5 of its contracted 5.7 km of roads in Balkh. This segment of road connects with AREA's previous RAMP-funded rehabilitation work of 26 km of the Colombo road (completed July 2005). AREA's activities under this job order will connect the Colombo road with the main North-South highway in Balkh province. This rehabilitated road will reduce transportation time and costs for 1,840 families living in its catchment.

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Colombo road	Balkh	Balkh	5.7	5	88%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>5.7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>88%</b>

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Completion of this road rehabilitation work is taking slightly longer than expected. RAMP will extend the Period of Performance of AREA's subcontract, but will be allocating no additional funding to this activity.

AREA Laborers preparing to lay gravel on Colombo road segment in central Balkh.



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<b>Venture Capital Fund (The Fund)</b> <b>Acap Partners</b> <b>Life of Project: February 15, 2005 - July 1, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#39-0003-Acap	February 15, 2005	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$4,000,000	\$0	\$2,200,000	\$0	\$1,800,000
<b>Project Description:</b> : The purpose of this Grant is to fund a contribution to the Afghanistan Renewal Fund, a venture capital fund to be managed by Acap Partners. The Fund will create a finance delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The Fund's total capitalization will be close to \$20 million initially, and could grow to \$30 million. The Fund will generate market-based returns for investors by contributing to the regeneration of the private sector.				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

This past quarter, Acap Partners established a corporate office in the Kabul Business Center in Shar-i-Naw, Kabul, and registered itself as a local business with the Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA). Now that the office is in full operation, Acap Partners is in a strong position to promote Afghanistan's first venture capital fund. Acap recently launched its website at [www.acap.com.af](http://www.acap.com.af) and hired a London-trained national Investment Associate to assist with reviewing potential new clients.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

Acap was significantly delayed in starting operations through this Job Order. Now that Acap has stationed the Investment Principal of The Fund, Pierre Van Hoeylandt, in Kabul the project is ready to move forward. Due to The Fund's inactivity, RAMP will reduce the Job Order's budget by approximately \$150,000.

Acap has lost some momentum and credibility due to the overly lengthy process in setting-up The Fund. As The Fund is launched, the managers are going to have to re-establish themselves and make some swift investment decisions to build their place in the Afghan financial sector. The managers are just in the beginning stages in this process and the next quarter will be vital in relationship building.

### ***Looking Ahead***

Over the next reporting period, Acap will carry out the following activities:

- Develop the deal pipeline and begin meetings of a weekly screening committee. Meet with stakeholders in the business and donor community to identify potential clients and investors, build a marketing network, and conduct industry analyses.
- Maintain regular communications with investors through bi-weekly updates and monthly reports.
- Complete operations handbooks and compliance manuals.
- Identify an MBA-holding business advisor intern to start in early summer.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

The Project Manager has been supportive of the Fund since its inception in May 2004. However, as Prime Contract budget cuts have led to the reduction of other subcontracts' project, this support has waned. The Project Manager was of the opinion not to provide Acap with further grant funding as it will not have any impact on the agricultural sector during the timeline of RAMP. The Project Manager recognizes that The Fund will have a long-term impact on the agriculture sector, but it will be difficult to assess how The Fund will contribute to RAMP's strategic objectives in the short-term.

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<b>Revolving Credit Facility</b> <b>Afghanistan International Bank (AIB)</b> <b>Life of Project: August 22, 2004 - July, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#40-0003-AIB	August 22, 2004	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,000,000	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> This revolving credit facility through AIB undertakes to extend medium and large sized loans in the range of \$50,000 to \$500,000 to entrepreneurs, enterprises and value added processors along the agricultural value chain. These enterprises may already be receiving technical assistance and support through other RAMP implementing partners, and this activity provides the best opportunity to quickly meet an identified credit need and create linkages with other sections of the RAMP program. AIB will be a self-sustaining partner that will have the capacity to continue to provide financial services to agribusinesses beyond the life of the RAMP project.				

AIB's credit facility is available nationwide and to-date loans have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Faryab, Hirat and Baghlan.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- AIB approved 2 loans during the quarter for a Shikwa Darya, a sugar cube factory and Hirat Biscuits, a biscuit processor. Both of these clients are located in Hirat province. Each of the clients had business plans drafted by Flag International, RAMP's business development services. The loan to the sugar cube factory was made from the bank's own capital which is a step forward for the bank to put their own money at risk rather than relying on the RAMP grant funds.
- Two problem loans continued to take much of the time and resources of the AIB lending staff. The RAMP rural finance team has provided assistance in recovering these loans. Plans were put into action on how to deal with these problem loans so as not to tarnish the agricultural sector portfolio established at AIB.

### ***Challenges Encountered***

The AIB lending staff remains a small unit for the bank. The number of deals outnumbers the staff's capacity to work on them. RAMP partner Flag International, has tried to provide assistance to AIB and move forward the agricultural-related loans through the bank. Yet, it still is a lengthy timeline from loan application/business plan receipt by the bank until the approval and processing of the loan. AIB recognizes this shortfall and intends to increase the lending staff from 4 to 10 within the next few months.

Another challenge faced was the negative feelings about agricultural loans in light of the problem loans. The AIB lenders are now being over-diligent in assessing loan deals. AIB is now insisting that clients hire accounting firms to prepare their financials. RAMP is interceding on behalf of the clients to not over-burden them with these types of extra expenses unless there is a compelling reason that the bank cannot perform the cash flow analysis themselves.

### ***Looking Ahead***

The main tasks for the second Quarter of 2006 are:

- Close-out the grant with AIB in the beginning of the second quarter. Complete all necessary documentation for this impending close-out.
- Recover as much of the problem loans as possible during the quarter. Reschedule the loans of these borrowers, if this will lead to recovery of the loans.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

AIB has only started to increase the size of their lending team which should go a long way in managing the loans that RAMP and its other partners identify. By the end of the quarter, RAMP started to pull away from assisting the bank so they will be able to stand on their own by the end of the program.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

<b>Business Mentoring Program</b> <b>United Nations Development Program</b> <b>Life of Project: November 4, 2004 to April 30, 2005</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#41-0003-UNDP	November 4, 2004	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$116,014	\$0	\$116,014	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> UNDP's Business Mentoring Program was primarily a resource for targeted agribusinesses, identified by USAID/RAMP in cooperation with UNDP. The Business Mentoring Program assisted with a variety of activities, including designing an efficient program with a revenue stream; profiling the agribusiness' current depth of skills and needs for additional capacity; and identifying appropriate experts to deliver specific technical assistance.				

### **Project Accomplishments**

- Served 28 clients with some business development services.
- 3 key personnel worked on the project during this pilot phase. The expatriate staff was twinned with national staff, which was trained in providing business development services.
- Office space for the Afghanistan Business Center (ABC) was set-up by the team.
- The fee structure for business development services was not fully completed during this pilot phase.

### **Lessons Learned**

As warned by many prior to the project, UNDP proved to be so bureaucratic that a private sector initiative was not highly successful. Although, the project did meet many of their objectives, the pilot phase ended without a renewal. The UN policies and procedures were too much of a burden to untie and meet the needs of entrepreneurs seeking assistance to develop business plans to access the various financing options available to them.

A Request for Proposal for an implementing partner to manage a business advisory service operation was posted in March 2005. UNDP expressed interest in coordinating with this new entity and possibly providing some funding to it. The latter did not materialize although the former is expected to take place as the new implementing partner launches their operations.

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<b>Business Development Services (BDS)</b> <b>Flag International (FI)</b> <b>Life of Project: June 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#41-0003-FI	June 1, 2005	Frances Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$813,000	\$205,327	\$569,930	\$125,168	\$117,903
<b>Project Description:</b> The purpose of this subcontract is to provide Business Development Services (BDS) to Afghan agribusinesses with the goal of supporting their access to credit in support of RAMP's ongoing projects. The Subcontractor will target small and medium sized agribusinesses along the value chain and offer BDS services to Afghan agribusiness to access loans, leases, equity and post-finance assistance in order to grow their businesses.				

Flag International is available to work with clients nationwide and to-date has assisted entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Laghman, Faryab, Hirat, Parwan, Balkh, Wardak and Baghlan.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- By March 2006, Flag International had interviewed and screened for assistance 146 clients and provided technical assistance/training to 49 clients. The clients hail from a mix of sectors representing input dealers, agricultural producers, fish farmers, furniture and carpet manufacturers, and processors of ice cream and biscuit and sugar cubes.
- Prepared business plans and has referred 19 clients to financial institutions for financing of working capital and equipment.
- Completed a business skills training in Balkh for members of a Mazar Nut Association organized by RAMP partner Roots of Peace.
- Assisted the Bagram Fruit Company with the purchase of a cold storage from GIA.
- Emphasized assistance to businesses owned and/or operated by females. Flag took a special interest in providing technical assistance to Afghan women engaged in various businesses such as carpet weaving, furniture making and handicrafts.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

One of the issues facing Flag is the extended turnaround time on the deals they present to the financial institutions. Due to the limited capacity within the lending departments of the financial institutions, it sometimes takes up to 2-3 months from client introduction until a credit decision is made. In turn, this takes additional time from Flag as they have completed their assistance in the deal and have moved on to the next client. Yet, the financial institutions still need Flag's involvement in closing the deal. To resolve this issue, Flag is taking more pro-active steps in turning over the full information of the clients to the financial institutions so they can carry forward the deal processing.

### ***Looking Ahead***

Due to budget cuts to RAMP's Prime Contract, Flag's subcontract has been reduced in value by \$200,000. During the next quarter, Flag will be finalizing outstanding deals, and complete their commitments to the clients as they begin to closedown operations.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Flag International has always been a very cooperative subcontractor under RAMP. Flag has been a very willing partner to the agricultural subcontractors under RAMP and others such as Land of Lakes, who has beneficiaries that desire financing.

Flag has risen to the challenge of providing technical assistance to more clients than targeted with very limited resources. However, the budget cut to Flag's program will curtail the momentum that Flag had with assisting clients, and will prevent them from taking on more clients. However, one of RAMP's agricultural subcontractors may second some of Flag's staff to work specifically with their beneficiaries. If this transpires, it will breath some more life into the final reporting results of Flag.



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<b>Small- Medium Enterprise (SME) Lending</b> <b>Afghanistan Finance Company (AFC)</b> <b>Life of Project: September 1, 2004 - July 1, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#42-0003-AFC	September 1, 2004	Fran Toomey	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$5,530,803	\$306,747	\$4,711,877	\$201,090	\$617,837
<b>Project Description:</b> The AFC is a leasing credit delivery mechanism to fulfill the unmet financing needs of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), specifically in the agricultural sector. The primary aim is to finance SME activities along the value chains that are receiving support through RAMP-funded projects. There is currently very limited lending available to SMEs, especially for agro-businesses. Making leasing available in Afghanistan will not only encourage processing to begin taking place, but will also allow business owners to obtain other types of equipment without having to front the full cost of the equipment.				

AFC's financing facility is available nationwide and to-date leases have been approved for entrepreneurs located in Kabul, Kunduz, Ghazni, Balkh, Hirat and Jalalabad.

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- Disbursed 1 additional lease, with cumulative disbursements totaling over \$600,000.
- Took regional trips made to Hirat and Mazar (Balkh) and met with over 20 business people. Surveyed the Mazar market for a new potential product – a village-based leasing program.
- Received additional loan funding of approximately \$600,000 from the close-out of the IFDC pilot loan program.
- Opened a field office in Jalalabad through the assistance of the USAID-funded ALP/East.
- Identified and hired a Risk Manager and a Head of Credit.
- Initiated a business plan for an AFC subsidiary to offer business development services to clients called the Afghan Business Services (ABS).
- Negotiated and received a \$900,000 credit line from AIB for additional capital. Also, negotiated for better bank rates for transactions with AIB.
- Completed operation manuals for working capital loans.
- Attended World Leasing Conference in Dubai, UAE and made important contacts with other leasing professionals in the region.
- Held a Board of Director meeting to discuss the strategic direction of AFC for the post-RAMP period.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

The budget cut to RAMP's Prime Contract will result in a \$150,000 reduction to AFC's project. AFC has adjusted their budget accordingly and has started pro-actively seeking other investors and donor support to see them through the critical stages of the next several months.

### ***Looking Ahead***

Over the next reporting period, AFC will carry out the following activities:

- Begin negotiations with the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) to provide funding for outreach of regional business development centers.
- Implement a thorough and regular monitoring system for the clients who have received financing through the Job Order – particularly the newly acquired IFDC clients.
- Develop a management plan for the key positions once RAMP's contract runs its course.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Based on the low financial skill levels amongst the Afghans and the unexpected timeline to start disbursing credit, AFC would benefit from an additional year of donor assistance. As RAMP concludes in June 2006, AFC should continue to advocate other investors and donors to support the activities that the program has already started.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

**Rehabilitation of Drains and Canals in Hilmand and Baghlan**

Development Alternatives, Inc.

Life of Project: November 1, 2004 – March 30, 2006

Provinces: Hilmand, Baghlan

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#43-0002-DAI	November 1, 2004	John Priest	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$2,193,492	\$302,136	\$1,533,537	\$0	\$659,955

**Project Description:** DAI has rehabilitated 64.14 km of drains in Hilmand (three sections: Darweshan, Shamalan, Upper Boghra), and has cleaned 52.34 km of canals in Baghlan (two sections: Gurgurak, Ab Qul).

**Project Accomplishments**

In 2005, DAI completed all of its work in Hilmand, cleaning and fortifying 64.14 km of drains in Darweshan, Shamalan, and Upper Boghra regions of the province. In the first quarter of 2006, DAI completed its work rehabilitating the Gurgurak and Ab Qul canals in Baghlan – 52.34 km total.

Originally, RAMP contracted DAI to clean these canals and construct diversion intakes and associated structures. Due to budget cuts to RAMP's prime contract, the Ceiling Price of this Job Order will be reduced by approximately \$1,100,000. Accordingly, DAI is just responsible for cleaning the canals and installing only the most critical associated canals structures; RAMP has cancelled the construction of the diversion intakes under this Job Order.



DAI laborers manually cleaning the Ab Qul Canal in Baghlan.

Drain Rehabilitation	Province	Region	Km of Drains Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Darweshan	Hilmand	Darweshan	10.96	10.96	100%
Shamalan	Hilmand	Shamalan	41.91	41.91	100%
Upper Boghra	Hilmand	Upper Boghra	11.27	11.27	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>64.14</b>	<b>64.14</b>	<b>100%</b>
Canal Rehabilitation	Province	Region	Km of Canals Rehabilitated		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Gurgurak Canal	Baghlan	Gurgurak	16.8	16.8	100%
Ab Qul Canal	Baghlan	Ab Qul	35.54	35.54	100%
<b>Total:</b>			<b>52.34</b>	<b>52.34</b>	<b>100%</b>

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## Hilmand Institution Building and Advisory in Support of Alt. Livelihoods

Development Alternatives, Inc.

Life of Project: November 1, 2004 – June 15, 2006

Provinces: Hilmand, Hirat

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#44-0002-DAI	November 1, 2004	John Priest	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,282,612	\$0	\$709,905	\$277,183	\$572,707

**Project Description:** DAI is establishing and monitoring Water User Associations (WUAs) in the Marja and Nad-i-Ali and Marja districts of Hilmand and Injil district of Hirat. At the national level, DAI designed the organizational structure and chartering of WUA – so effective models could be replicated in other provinces. The project was designed to empower water users to become self-financing for operation, maintenance and management of canal and drainage systems from the farm gate to the river intake.

Afghanistan has a traditional system for managing irrigation water called the *Mirab* system. The *Mirabs* are the water masters vested with the responsibility for deciding the distribution of irrigation water to the farmers and handling the operation and maintenance (O&M) of the irrigation infrastructure. However, the *Mirab* system does not have the organizational and institutional capability to efficiently respond to the rising needs of the farmers and conduct effective O&M of the system. Although the *Mirabs* are elected by the water users and landowners, they do not have the mandates to carry out marketing and O&M activities for enhancing their financial capability.

Since November 2004, DAI has been working in Hilmand and Hirat to establish Water User Associations (WUA), based-off the traditional *Mirab* system. The WUAs are formed by water users themselves, controlled and owned by them and serve as an independent and legal entity with full autonomy and authority for the distribution of irrigation water, maintenance of irrigation and drainage systems and mobilization and effective utilization of funds.

### Accomplishments this Quarter

DAI is establishing 2 WUAs in Hilmand province (Marja and Nad-i-Ali districts) and 1 in Hirat (Injil district).

#### Hilmand

During this past quarter, DAI made significant headway in drafting operational charters for the WUAs in Hilmand. The charter will contain general principles and outline of the structure of a WUA model for the two areas. It includes, at this stage, the following:

- Objectives, Powers, and Functions of the WUA
- WUA Model
- Membership Structure
- Management Board
- Lateral and Canal WUAs
- General Consultative Board
- Financial Structure and Provisions
- Offences and penalties
- Termination of the Associations



DAI surveyers collecting GIS data along the Injil canal in Hirat. Data is used to create a detailed map of intakes along the irrigation system

After engaging in consultation with the local people in Nad-i-Ali and Marja on the *Mirab* system and how they think some of its functions can be improved, DAI began a statistical survey of the size of land, laterals and sub-laterals, irrigators, farmlands and families. The survey is complete in Nad-i-Ali, and ongoing in Marja.

### Hirat

The WUA development program in Injil is progressing on schedule. DAI has produced an irrigation map of the Injil canal showing the layout of the irrigation system, location of the intakes and the turnouts. Additionally, DAI carried-out the following activities:

- Formulated an Institutional Model based off lessons learned in Hilmand, and recently completed surveys in Hirat;
- Adapted the model Charter and By-Laws developed for Hilmand to apply to Injil;
- Formulated General Assembly (GA) election procedure and rules;
- Produced training materials for the GA and Management Board members of the Injil WUA; and
- Organized the water users to elect their representatives to the GA of the WUA;



Newly elected General Assembly members of the Injil Canal WUA in Hirat.

### Kabul

DAI continued to provide advisory services to the Ministries of Agriculture and Food, Rural Reconstruction and Development, and Energy and Water Resources. On February 13, 2006, DAI facilitated a successful workshop in Kabul on WUA development. In attendance were representatives of the aforementioned Ministries and USAID, as well as NGOs and contractors working on irrigation projects throughout Afghanistan. The workshop focused on the following technical areas:

- The *Mirab* system and its need for reform;
- The scope of water laws in Afghanistan, existing legal framework and regulations;
- Feedback from target areas where the WUAs are intended to be set up;
- The types and models of WUAs experienced in other countries;
- The structures and functions of the WUAs in the context of Afghanistan;
- The steps for developing the WUAs in Afghanistan;
- The scope and development of a charter for WUAs;
- The scope of WUAs rights and responsibilities;
- The difference between the *Mirab* system and a WUA; and
- The role of government and its relationship with the WUAs

The recommendations drawn from the workshop will serve as guidelines in improving the design models and outlining the structure and functions of WUAs.

### Looking Ahead

In the second quarter of 2006, DAI will finalize the Charter and By Laws for the Marja and Nad-i-Ali WUAs in Hilmand. In Hirat, DAI will continue to organize and train WUA Management Board members, and finalize the Charter and By-Laws for Injil WUA after it is approved by the GA of the WUA.

From April 9, 2006 to April 13, 2006, DAI will hold a training workshop for the newly elected GA and the Management Board Members.

### Project Manager Comments

RAMP will be increasing DAI's Ceiling Price by approximately \$261,000 to support ongoing water association work in Hirat.



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PROJECT DISCONTINUED

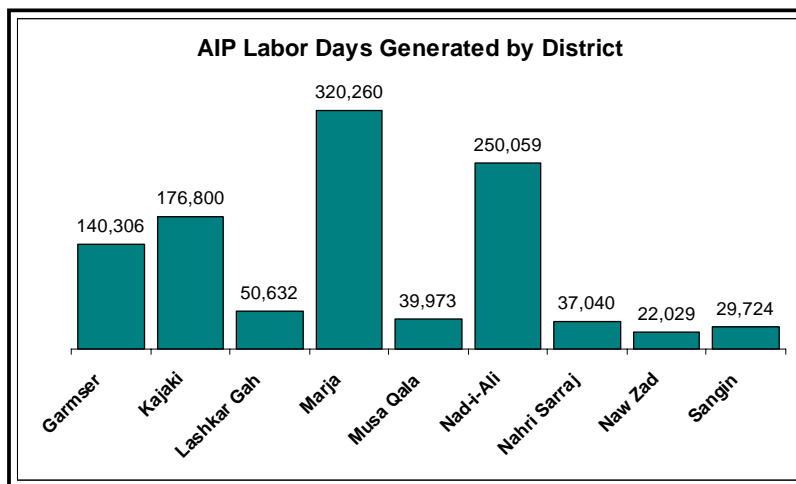
<b>Alternative Income Project (AIP)</b> <b>Chemonics International Inc.</b> <b>Life of Project: November 19, 2004 – July 20, 2005</b> <b>Provinces: Hilmand</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#46-0002-Chemonics International	October 24, 2004	Carol Yee	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$8,245,450	\$0	\$8,245,450	\$0	\$0
<b>Project Description:</b> AIP, implemented by Chemonics International was an integral part of USAID's Alternative Livelihoods Strategy for Afghanistan. In close consultation with all levels of the Afghan government, communities and donor agencies, and in support of the larger government of Afghanistan counter-narcotic initiative, AIP managed labor-intensive cash-for-work infrastructure projects and community development grants supporting economically-viable alternatives to poppy production.				

### Project Accomplishments

During the life of the project, AIP rapidly implemented **22 cash-for-work infrastructure projects which generated 1,066,823 labor days and infused \$4.1 million in wages into local economies.** These individual labor-intensive projects employed community members of 10 districts in Hilmand to clean minor drains/irrigation canals, excavate debris from karezes, rehabilitate farm to market roads, and weave metal frames for gabion baskets.



To promote economic security for those unable to participate in cash-for-work activities, AIP issued grants to INTERSOS, Mercy Corps International and VARA to lead community development activities and facilitate vocational training courses. These programs focused on particularly vulnerable segments of the population – women-led households and internally displaced people. Collectively the grantees enrolled 536 participants in vocational training programs and reached a total of 3,946 beneficiaries through literacy courses, social protection campaigns, and instructional agriculture radio programs.





Although AIP's tremendous impact was felt by its intended beneficiaries, the work did not go unnoticed by hostile forces in the region. Seven months into the project, the security environment in southern Afghanistan tragically deteriorated. From May 17 to May 19, 2005, AIP suffered three attacks resulting in the death of four staff members and seven associated individuals. AIP immediately suspended all cash-for-work activities, and instructed its grantees to only continue those community development activities which could be safely implemented. Chemonics and USAID/Afghanistan proceeded to engage in discussions to determine the most effective means for AIP to safely resume its activities.

On July 30, 2005, Chemonics and USAID/Afghanistan mutually agreed that the best way to maintain AIP's programmatic momentum was to contractually discontinue the project and fold its existing activities into other USAID-funded programs managed by Chemonics. Both parties decided that AIP's cash-for-work activities and the majority of its staff and assets would be incorporated into Chemonics' Alternative Livelihoods Project in southern Afghanistan (ALP/S); AIP's community development grants would be managed by Chemonics' Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program (RAMP/Chemonics).



Governor Sher Mohammad pays an AIP laborer at Nad-i-Ali

Throughout its duration, AIP attracted significant attention from a range of Afghan and American officials and counter-narcotic policy designers including US Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad, John Walters - Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Habibullah Qaderi, - Afghan Counter Narcotics Minister, Mark Kirk - US Congressman of Illinois, Ross Wherry - USAID Senior Reconstruction Advisor, and Patrick Fine - USAID/Afghanistan Mission Director. AIP was able to clearly demonstrate to these delegations the effectiveness of its cash-for-work and vocational training components, and how they can be easily replicated to assist in larger counter-narcotic initiatives.

AIP's final report illustrates that the project's seven months of operation were extremely successful in quickly implementing community-driven activities that responded to the immediate needs of its targeted beneficiaries. Although the project ended prematurely, AIP made a visible and lasting impact in its host communities and laid the foundation for further alternative livelihood activities in the region.

On February 15, 2005, USAID awarded to Chemonics a \$119.9 million contract to manage ALP activities in the southern region (ALP/S). ALP/S is working to achieve two strategic objectives (1) Help accelerate licit economic growth and business activities in selected provinces in which poppy cultivation is thriving, and (2) Help provide an immediate source of income to poor households whose livelihoods depend, directly or indirectly, on the temporary opium economy.

AIP's cash-for-work activities feed directly into ALP/S' second objective of providing an immediate source of income to its target beneficiaries. AIP is transferring over 12 cash-for-work projects that can resume in a matter of a few days under ALP/S' management once the security situation improves. ALP/S will adopt AIP's cash-for-work management structure to build on the momentum and community recognition that AIP had already achieved.

The majority of AIP's local staff members have transferred over to ALP/S office in Lashkar Gah to manage the cash-for-work component of the larger program. At the project's closure, AIP had 102 national staff on its payroll. (These figures do not include the 14,000 cash-for-work laborers who were not full time staff members, as they were hired on a project specific basis). AIP's staff members have acquired significant institutional knowledge and will be able to easily resume administering and monitoring cash-for-work activities with little advanced preparation. Engineers from AIP have already begun working with ALP/S staff to determine which activities would be the most appropriate to resume first.

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PROJECT COMPLETED

**Nangarhar Emergency Seed Wheat and Fertilizer Distribution Program**  
**Social and Technical Association for Afghanistan Rehabilitation**  
**Life of Project: December 4, 2004 – June 30, 2005**  
**Provinces: Nangarhar**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#48-0004- IFHOPE, RSSA, STAAR, GAA, RDRO, ICARDA, Relief International	December 4, 2004	Naqib Ahmad	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$554,142	\$0	\$554,142	\$0	\$0

**Project Description:** This action arose mainly as a result of the US Mission to Afghanistan, responding to a request by the Governor of Nangarhar Province for help to encourage farmers to start cultivating licit crops in lieu of illicit crops (opium poppy). In order to respond, therefore, the US Mission is launching an emergency distribution program of seed wheat and fertilizer in 23 districts of Nangarhar Province.

In response to a request from the Governor of Nangarhar and t, the U.S. Ambassador to Afghanistan, Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad mobilized the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to organize the distribution of 490 MT of wheat seed and 1,478MT of fertilizer to Afghan farmers in all 23 districts of Nangarhar.

The wheat and fertilizer distribution campaign is just one part of a broader, anti-poppy initiative to ensure alternative livelihoods for Afghan farming families. The effort is coordinated by the USAID funded Rebuilding Agricultural Markets Program, as implemented by Chemonics International. RAMP is the largest agricultural development initiative in Afghanistan.

### **Project Accomplishments**

The average production for wheat as reported by the Implementing Partners ranged from 2.4 to 3.8 metric tons per hectare.



Former US Ambassador Dr. Zalmay Khalilzad speaking to project beneficiaries in Jalabad, Nangarhar province.

Name of IP	# of Farmers received the seed	Land cultivated (hectares)	Total wheat seed distributed (MT)	Total fertilizer distributed (MT)		Average Production Kg/Jerib* (mt/hectare)	Total Production (MT)
				DAP	Urea		
Relief International	10792	2158	269.8	269.8	539.6	720 (3.6)	7772
ICARDA	1718	344	43	43	86	640 (3.2)	1100
RDRO	1700	340	42.5	42.5	85	525 (2.6)	892
GAA	1560	312	39	39	78	617 (3.8)	963
STAAR	1284	258	32.2	32.2	64.4	499 (2.5)	640
RSSA	840	160	21	21	41	490 (2.4)	392
IFHOPE	1680	336	42	42	84	577 (2.9)	970
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,574</b>	<b>3,908</b>	<b>489.5</b>	<b>489.5</b>	<b>978</b>		<b>12,729</b>

\* One jerib is 0.2 hectare

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PROJECT COMPLETED

**Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed Road**  
**Kunduz Reconstruction Agency (KRA)**  
**Life of Project: October 10, 2003 – May 31, 2005**  
**Provinces: Kunduz**

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#49-0002-KRA	October 10, 2003	Saroj Basnyet	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$193,998	\$36,603	\$193,998	\$0	\$0

**Project Description:** KRA has upgraded and widened 7.2 kilometers of the Qasim Ali to Sayed Ahmed tertiary road in Aliabad District of Kunduz Province.

### **Project Accomplishments**

KRA has completed the rehabilitation of 7.2 km. of compacted-gravel surface based on community mobilization and with the support of Government.

Communities have donated their land throughout the length of the road corridor and this has permitted an increase of width of the road surface from 2.5 or 3 meters originally to 7 meters in width

Road Rehabilitation	Province	District	Km Completed		% Complete
			Target	Actual	
Qasim Ali to Ahmed	Kunduz	Aliabad	7.2	7.2	%100
<b>Total:</b>			<b>7.2</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>%100</b>

In addition to land, communities from Qasamali village have donated their houses and have demolished them to enlarge the width of the road. The photo shows the demolition of buildings at Qasamali Village No. 2 located at 3.6 km. and the difference made to the structure of the road after rehabilitation.

The following photos were taken at kilometer 3.5 of the road before and during rehabilitation, i.e., during February 2005 and October 2005. They highlight improvements made to the road surface and width.



During rehabilitation



After rehabilitation

<b>Locust and Sunn pest Control Control Program, Northern Afghanistan</b> <b>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</b> <b>Period of Performance: March 11, 2005 – June 30, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Jawzjan, Kunduz, Samangan, Sar-i-Pul, Takhar</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#50-0004-FAO	March 1, 2005	Abdul Samad Nazari	Dan Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$1,470,000	\$225,977	\$1,453,066	\$0	\$16,934
<b>Project Description:</b> FAO conducted emergency pest control activities based on egg bed surveys conducted in 8 districts of Baghlan province. The results indicate that the locust population will be significantly lower in most districts in 2006 and will pose a significantly less control problem than in 2005. Through 2006, FAO will continue to implement locust and Sunn pest control campaigns, and provide technical assistance to increase the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD).				

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

- RAMP extended FAO's work in emergency control of Sunn pest and locust to June 30, 2006. FAO started implementing the locust control campaign in the heavier locust infested areas of Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan and Kunduz provinces while Government officials from the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) started implementing, under FAO administrative supervision, the locust control campaign in the lesser infested areas of northern Afghanistan. Organizers and operators for the locust emergency control campaign were recruited and deployed to locust-infested areas where the breeding areas were surveyed and spraying got underway as soon as hatching was observed
- Data from the Sunn pest overwintering survey conducted by FAO in the northern and western provinces of Afghanistan was analyzed and used for planning the Sunn pest campaign.
- FAO has begun implementing the Sunn pest emergency control campaign in the northern, northwestern, and western provinces of Afghanistan. FAO and PPQD project staff worked in Jowzjan, Sar-i-pul, and Faryab provinces in March in recruiting and training local project supervisors, coordinators, and organizers, in getting all materials, supplies, logistics, and other preparations made, and in conducting a survey of Sunn pest infestation.
- Two FAO National Project Personnel (Plant Protection Specialists) and two PPQD officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Kabul) initiated similar activities for the Sunn pest emergency control campaign in Hirat and Badghis provinces.

### ***Looking Forward***

- FAO, with the help of the PPQD, will continue the locust control campaign most likely through May unless there are concentrations of locusts observed in June that need to be controlled.
- FAO will train as many farmers as possible in mechanical control of Sunn pest using nets and in the proper use of sprayers for applying agricultural chemicals.
- FAO will continue to be in close contact with Noor Brothers Company (local agri-input supply dealer) who is making the deltamethrin and danadim available for sale to farmers who are controlling the Sunn pest.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Action Taken***

- PPQD is in a position to assume significant responsibility in especially the locust control campaign but also in the Sunn pest campaign. RAMP and FAO are working closely with Mr. Ahmadi, Head of the PPQD, to keep him aware and involved in project decisions that influence the impact of the campaigns.
- Local farmers involved in the Sunn pest control campaign need to be well trained in mechanical control of Sunn pest. Over 45,000 nets in addition to the nets supplied last year by FAO will be made available to farmers.

- Security concerns will affect the Sunn pest control campaign to some degree, especially in Badghis Province. In Badghis Province, World Vision, an NGO operating in many districts of Badghis, will complement the FAO work by also training many farmers in Sunn pest control measures.
- All FAO district organizers must continue to train the farmers in Sunn pest control during the entire campaign. FAO must continue to support these organizers financially, logistically, and technically.

***Project Manager Comments***

- FAO must provide very close supervision and monitoring of all field activities during the entire implementation period
- The locust campaign must not end until an adequate survey of potentially infested areas has been completed and, if areas of infestation are discovered, those areas must be controlled.
- RAMP will be increasing the Ceiling Price of this grant by approximately \$500,000 to fund spring pest control activities.



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### Ministry of Agriculture Institutional Capacity Building

Chemonics International, Abt Associates

Life of Project: May 12, 2005 - May 12, 2006

Provinces: Nationwide

<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#51-0004- Chemonics, Abt Associates	May 12, 2005	Louis Faoro	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$878,994	\$221,270	\$416,779	\$123,646	\$338,569

**Project Description:** Chemonics and Abt Associates are providing a cadre of senior officials working to enhance the capabilities of the MAF. In addition to carrying out sectoral assessments, these individuals are creating effective systems and structures to improve the MAF's ability to develop and implement activities in support of its national objectives – outlined in its recently completed *Master Plan*.

### Accomplishments this Quarter

RAMP is providing three full-time Senior Advisors to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Dr. Mohamed Usman (Policy and Planning), Mr. Yaqub Roshan (Alternative Livelihoods), and Mr. Rahman Habib (Infrastructure, Public and Foreign Relations). In addition, several short-term advisors with specific areas of expertise are provided as needed. The assistance from the advisors covers many and varied areas, as is described in this report.

**Advising the Minister –** RAMP's three senior advisors hold a key responsibility to become informed on many diverse issues and to make recommendations to the Minister that are to the long term benefit and sustainability of the Ministry. During this quarter the senior advisors participated in reviews of MAF programs and projects, concept papers, feasibility studies, appraisal, and protocol documents submitted to the Ministry.

Dr. Usman wrote a position paper for the Minister relating to the privatization of the Afghan Fertilizer Company. This followed a thorough review of documents from several institutions at the request of the Asian

Development Bank (ADB). The

result was that the Minister expressed his support to the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and assigned two senior staff to assist the MoF in the privatization process. He also reviewed the draft terms of reference of the newly created Agricultural Alternative Department, prepared a paper for the Minister on Privatization of Clinical Veterinary Services, and reviewed the Irrigation Chapter of the *Master Plan*.

Mr. Roshan provided advisory support to the Minister in capacity development issues, and specifically in initiating a reform on improved division of labor between senior officials of the Ministry. Mr. Habib advised the Minister and several departments within the ministry areas, including the departments of foreign relations, communication, private sector development, public relations and infrastructure.



Minister of Agriculture and Food Obaidullah Ramin (left), and USAID Mission Director Alonzo Fulgham (right) at the RAMP Showcase on March 29, 2006.

The MAF's *Master Plan* was essentially completed during the previous quarter. During this quarter, the document underwent its final reviews and edits, and will be ready for publication in May 2006. RAMP contributed to this effort by providing a short-term consultant that completed a final edit on the English version of the *Master Plan*.

**External Relations** – Another of the important functions of the Senior Advisors is to develop and facilitate relationships between the Minister and officials from other Ministries, donor representatives and other foreign dignitaries. Mr. Habib and Dr. Usman continue to be key participants in planning and conducting the bi-weekly meetings with the Minister and donor representatives. These meetings are very beneficial to the Minister and to the donors in formulating and refining plans that bring together the needs of the Ministry, and the resources and requirements of the donors.

**Communications** – RAMP advisors are actively involved in assisting the Minister to convey the important activities, plans and progress, and other information about the MAF to farmers, the general public, other government agencies and donors.

As part of the communication and public relations activities of the Ministry, the three day National Farmer's Conference held this quarter was a major accomplishment. It was an opportunity for farmers to express their views and needs to a wide audience, as well as for the Ministry to lay out their plans for the future, and get direct feedback from the farmers and other interested parties. All three of the Senior Advisors were heavily involved in preparation and participation in the conference, in promoting the event and in participating in round table discussions.

On March 29, 2006, RAMP facilitated a showcase to inform the public about the collaborative achievements of USAID and the MAF. The event commenced with speeches from Minister of Agriculture and Food Obaidullah Ramin, USAID Mission Director Alonzo Fulgham, and RAMP COP Louis Faoro. After the speeches, more than 400 attendees were invited to the RAMP office to tour an interactive exhibition of program accomplishments in agriculture and market development, infrastructure, and rural finance. This was a tremendous success, generating significant national media attention and demonstrating how RAMP activities will contribute \$1.6 billion to the economy.

**Building Capacity of Ministry and Staff** – Dr. Usman is working closely with the General Policy Analysis and Planning department, establishing systems and training staff in methods and procedures that will improve the department's effectiveness. This department is critical as it sets the standards and the direction of the Ministry to implement the *Master Plan* and meet the needs of the agriculture sector in Afghanistan. Dr. Usman is a member (appointed by the Minister) of the Civil Service Commission team, and participated in interviews of candidates for super-grade positions within the Ministry. Four highly qualified professionals were selected among the candidates for positions in the departments of Plant and Animal Service, Natural Resource, Policy Analysis and Planning, and Governorate Liaison.

Mr. Roshan is working with the Agricultural Alternative Livelihoods (AL) Unit to build their skills and capacity. He has specifically facilitated discussions on how to streamline the Unit's mandate and mission statement, advised on finalizing the organizational structure, and provided technical support to identify key projects within the AL focus. He is also working with the Administration Department that is responsible for setting-up an IT support center to computerize the accounting and financial reporting system so it is compatible with the Ministry of Finance requirements. He has also provided technical inputs to the Administration and Planning departments in efforts to streamline financial and budgetary procedures for expenditure of recurrent and developmental budgets.

Mr. Habib serves as the liaison between RAMP, the MAF and the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission (IARCSC) to identify candidates and provide short-term support for several critical staff through a bridging program until PRR funds become available. As a result, 19 staff in the positions of Department Directors are currently being supported. This temporary measure allows the Minister to field the team he needs to ensure that Ministry reforms and modernization take place.

He is also working closely with the departments of Foreign Relation and Private Sector within the Ministry. His activities include establishing a commission to oversee the distribution of scholarships

and fellowships, and developing a plan to restructure the Private Sector department to bring private sector investors into closer contact and cooperation with the Ministry.

**Administration** – One of the responsibilities of Mr. Habib is to improve office management within the Minister's office. His activities involve managing staff as well as on the job training the staff in more efficient procedures and promoting teamwork. He coordinates the Minister's meetings with department heads and advisors, as well as with foreign dignitaries.

**Infrastructure** – Mr. Habib, as a professional architect, is assisting the Minister to develop an infrastructure master plan of the Kabul and other Ministry facilities that will effectively support Ministry activities. He is also planning and supervising specific construction activities for the Ministry compound. An office system for the planning department, designed during the previous quarter, was completed during this quarter. He has also contributed to developing plans for an IT system linking several Ministry buildings. This system will be completed during second quarter of 2006. It was designed by and will be funded under this RAMP Capacity Building project.

**Project Review and Planning** – With the completion of the MAF *Master Plan*, the Ministry is focusing much time and effort to ensure that appropriate projects are implemented. RAMP advisors have contributed in many areas. Dr. Usman and the Planning department have worked closely with the World Bank teams throughout the development process of a major agricultural project. He contributed to developing terms of reference for a feasibility study on the Khush Tepa Irrigation and Hydropower Project. He reviewed technical proposals and concept papers on Resolving Land Related Disputes and Strengthening Research Services.

Mr. Roshan, in close cooperation with MAF officials, Counter Narcotics Trust Fund (CNTF) staff and officials from the Ministry of Counter Narcotics participated in identifying and preparing projects to be considered for funding by CNTF. Out of 36 project concepts identified by MAF sub-sector branches, 18 were selected by the CNTF as priority projects. These include projects in credit to farmers, production and post-harvest processing activities.

**Project Facilitation and Implementation** – Mr. Roshan provided support to the AMPS program by facilitating Ministry approval of selected seed varieties and training manuals, as well as other activities where needed. He also facilitated a national campaign against Melon Fly by assisting the Plant Protection and Quarantine Department (PPQD) to design a training program and practical demonstration of control methods for PPQD staff from 10 provinces.

**Pastoralist Support Strategy** - Ms. Frauke de Weijer continued her activities in support to the Kuchi pastoralist community. As a follow-up to the Conference on Pastoralists reported last quarter, she has completed a draft Pastoralist Support Strategy document, an important step in a consultative process towards developing a Pastoralist Support Strategy supported by government (Ministry of Frontiers and Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Food), donors, national and international experts, and most importantly the pastoralists themselves. The next step in the process will be that all stakeholders are invited to comment to and contribute in detail on the draft strategy document.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Due to budget cuts to RAMP's prime contract, Abt Associates subcontract under this Job Order will be reduced by approximately \$108,000.

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<b>Agricultural Input Supply Program (AISP) and  Agriculture Market Production Support (AMPS) Program</b> <b>International Fertilizer Development Company (IFDC), Chemonics International, Development  Alternatives Inc. (DAI), Planning and Development Collaborative International (PADCO)</b> <b>Life of Project: August 24, 2005 - June 30, 2006</b> <b>Provinces: Nationwide</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#52,54-0004-RAMP	August 24, 2005	Don Meier	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$800,000
<b>Project Description:</b> AISP (Fall 2005) and AMPS (Spring 2006) are two separate seed and fertilizer distribution programs designed to enhance the capacity and coordination of the MAF at the national and provincial level as well as to present alternative livelihood opportunities to farmers. Through AISP, 14,000 metric tons (mt) of seed (wheat potato and onion) and 40,000 mt of fertilizer (DAP and urea) were distributed nationwide to more than 530,000 farmers in all 34 provinces. The more focused AMPS concentrates just on those provinces in Afghanistan that have some of the highest incidence of opium poppy cultivation where support for alternative livelihoods is most critical. This program is distributing high-value horticulture seeds (such as tomato, okra, cucumber, eggplant, watermelon, carrots, onions, etc.) and fertilizer to farmers residing in regions with established markets and processing centers.				

### ***Agriculture Input Supply Program (AISP)***

AISP was a nationwide initiative in which the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MAF) worked with MRRD, MCN, DFID, USAID, RAMP/Chemonics, IFDC, along with Provincial and District Implementing Partners to provide the technical packages of fertilizers and seeds to 531,475 beneficiaries (98.8% of projected totals) throughout all of Afghanistan's 34 provinces. Through a voucher disbursement system, each farmer beneficiary received enough seed (mostly wheat but also onion or potato) and fertilizer (25 kg of DAP and 50 kg of urea) to cultivate one jerib (1 jerib equals ½ acre or 0.2 hectares) of land during the Fall 2005 planting season.

Starting in mid-May 2006, the farmers will begin harvesting what they planted in the fall. After harvest, the participating farmers are expected to make repayments to their Implementing Partners, e.g. agricultural cooperative, farmers' association, NSP Community Development Council, or local *shura*, for an established value of the technical packages at a subsidized rate of 1,500 afghanis (approximately \$30). The reflow funds will be used to invest in small, locally-selected community development projects. The Steering Committee is developing a set of guidelines to be presented to the Minister of MAF for approval and distribution to the Provincial Directorates of Agriculture.



Farmers in Badakhshan province plant wheat seed distributed through the Agricultural Input Supply Program (AISP).



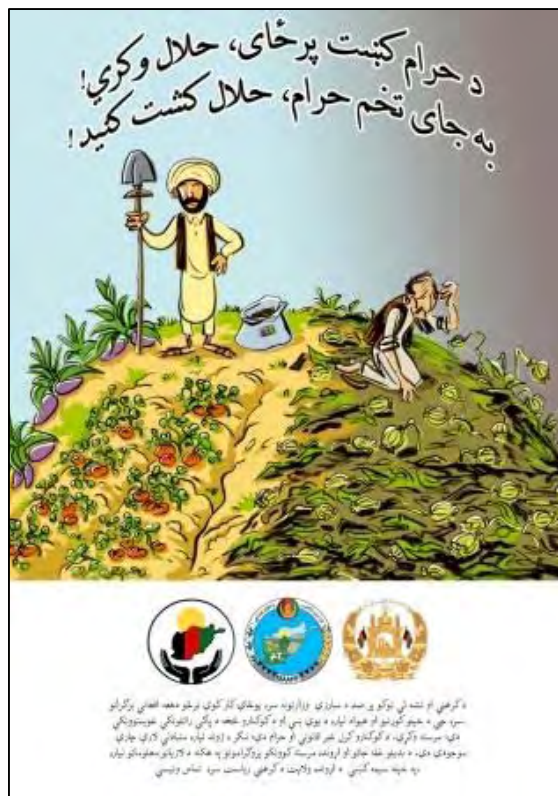


## Agriculture Market Production Support (AMPS) Activities

During the first quarter of 2006, RAMP staff members were extremely busy coordinating AMPS activities. This program is a more targeted distribution program that derives from the successes of AISP. Rather than distributing seed and fertilizer on a national scale, the spring program focuses on those provinces in Afghanistan that have some of the highest incidence of opium poppy cultivation, namely Nangarhar, Kunar, Laghman (East); Helmand, Kandahar, Uruzgan (South); and Badakshan, Takhar (North).

Through AMPS, RAMP works directly with project managers on the USAID-funded Alternative Livelihood Programs (ALPs) implemented by DAI (ALP/East), Chemonics International (ALP/South), and PADCO (ALP/North). Project managers from the three ALPs are responsible for working with provincial directorates of MAF to select program beneficiaries and distribute the technical packages of vegetable seed and fertilizer. RAMP's role in AMPS was to procure and transfer the vouchers to each of the ALP regions (100,000 to each) as well as to provide voucher distribution workshops and training materials.

In addition, RAMP prepared brief agriculture extension materials for each of the crops (tomato, okra, cucumber, eggplant sweet pepper, watermelon & melon in Pashtu as well as tomato, okra, onion, potato, carrot & cauliflower in Dari) that were printed and distributed to the AMPS/S and AMPS/N regions respectively. RAMP facilitated the review and approval of all newly prepared agriculture extension material by the MAF Extension Department. It also ensured that the materials carried appropriate branding and alternative livelihood messages, including a poster in Pashtu and Dari prepared specifically for this purpose. In addition, radio programs promoting AMPS were developed and produced that were disseminated to the ALP regions for broadcast on local stations.



AMPS promotional poster. The top reads 'Plant *halal* (legal/moral) seeds, not *haram* (illegal/immoral) seeds'. The bottom states that this campaign is supported by the Government of Afghanistan.

During this past quarter, the beneficiaries for the Spring program were selected by the Implementing Partners in collaboration with the Provincial and District Directorates of Agriculture and Food and the AMPS Activity Managers. Preliminary crop assessments were performed in each AMPS region resulting in the selection of the recommended inputs. IFDC procured the preferred varieties of seeds and distributed them along with the fertilizer to their network of dealers' associations on a reasonably timely basis. Currently the distribution of the technical packages is virtually complete with the exception of a subsequent addition of corn to some districts in southern Helmand and Uruzgan. It does appear that the most farmers received the packages in time for the Spring planting season, albeit a bit later than desired in some cases.



### ***Looking Forward***

During the next few months each of the AMPS regions will continue with their extension and training activities. In addition, they will carry on with the monitoring and evaluation plan. The market network assessments will be finalized within the next month or so. Contacts established during this process will undoubtedly be followed up to ensure the success of the marketing chain. Once a set of guidelines for the use of the reflow funds from the AISP is approved, it is expected that virtually the same plan can be implemented for AMPS.

### ***Challenges Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken***

One of the most vexing problems encountered during this quarter had to do with some disgruntled IFDC dealers in the north who would not accept the results of the tender for the AMPS/N region. It seems that some of the most vociferous dealers from Baghlan and Kunduz somehow felt that they were entitled to special treatment and that by complaining profusely they might gain some benefit or concession. However, a review of the bidding process revealed no irregularities and their allegations were ultimately found to be without merit. Nevertheless, it does point out the need to be fully transparent in issuing tenders and to avoid the appearance of collusion by involving individuals outside the issuing organization.

The security situation remains a paramount concern. The ALP staff members are constantly at risk and need to find creative mechanisms for accomplishing their tasks without putting themselves in harm's way. There has been some positive feedback already that some local people are appreciative of the efforts that have been made. Nevertheless, one must always be sensitive to the local environment and be wary of too close an association with controversial activities, such as crop eradication or counter terrorist operations.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

Each of the AMPS regions have taken markedly different approaches to the distribution and types of inputs. For example, AMPS/E has a relatively large number of beneficiaries (nearly 93,000) with some of them receiving inputs for only ½ jerib compared with AMPS/N that has a smaller number of beneficiaries (just over 9,000) that each receive inputs for three jeribs. AMPS/S, which is operating in one of the most insecure areas of the country, actually has the largest number of crop types (8). It will be interesting to observe the lessons learned and the impact of these different strategies. However, since the employment contract of the RAMP/AMPS Coordinator expires at the end of May, he may not be around to witness the results.

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<b>Balkh Irrigation System Rehabilitation</b> <b>Helping Afghan Farmers Organization (HAFO),</b> <b>National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAK), Ghulam Rasul and Company (GRC)</b> <b>Life of Project: October 25, 2005 – January 31, 2006</b> <b>Province: Balkh</b>				
<i>Job Order No.</i>	<i>Date of Award</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>	<i>USAID CTO</i>	<i>USAID CO</i>
JO#53-0002-HAFO, NESPAK, ACLU, GRC	October 25, 2005	Mhd. Ibrahim Sultani	Daniel Miller	Margaret Kline
<i>Ceiling Price</i>	<i>Quarter Expenditures</i>	<i>Cumulative Expenditures</i>	<i>Accruals to Date</i>	<i>Balance</i>
\$4,693,873	\$343,031	\$346,081	\$396,131	\$3,951,661
<b>Project Description:</b> Ghulam Rasul and Company (GRC) is constructing the Samar Kandian weir across the Balkhab river in Balkh. This is the largest irrigation project in Afghanistan, and will provide improved water supply to 129,000 hectares of farmland. Helping Afghan Farmers (HAF) and National Engineering Services Pakistan (NESPAK) conducted surveys and developed designs on which GRC's work is based.				

Under Job Order #53 RAMP is working with 3 partners to construct the Samar Kandian cross-river weir, head regulators for control of four canals and ancillary structures on the Balkhab River near Samar Kandian village of Balkh province. This is the largest irrigation project currently underway in Afghanistan and provide improved water supply to irrigate approximately 129,000 hectares of land.

This RAMP initiative provided the catalyst for the participation by ADB in funding numerous ancillary structures. Collectively, this multi-donor project will stimulate economic growth in the region and create wealth for thousands of families over the next generation. The impact of this RAMP work and the drawing to it of other donors with significant contributions makes this an ideal development effort.

The following table outlines the status of the various components of this project. By January 2006, RAMP partners had completed all the surveys and designs for the project, and GRC began construction in February 2006.

Project Components	Implementing Partner	Subcontract / Purchase Order Value	Status
Survey of Imam Sahib Canal irrigation system; Development of topographic map of canal; Collection of GPS coordinate data, Designs of current state of irrigation structures, with proposed new structures.	HAFO	\$23,210	Completed December 2005
Conducting surveys and developing designs for 3 weirs across Balkhab River: Head Regulator to serve the Imam Sahib Canal Village Samar Kandian Bangala Bridge	NESPAK	\$671,180	Completed January 2006
Construction of Samar Kandian cross river weir, head regulators for control of four canals and ancillary structures. (construction based-off surveys and designs listed above)	GRC	\$4,186,178	Work Began February 2006. 30% Complete

### ***Accomplishments this Quarter***

GRC made tremendous headway this past quarter, from procuring equipment, mobilizing its worksite and beginning construction. GRC is currently employing three shifts of laborers who work 24 hours a day, six days a week.

### ***Project Manager Comments***

RAMP is engaged in negotiations with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for construction of complementary works at the Samar Kandian Weir site. Because the RAMP program is nearing completion and budgets are nearly fully committed, a cooperative project effort was agreed for USAID to construct a cross-river weir and the ADB to close the river and to build a feeder canal and four intakes that serve nearly 130,000 hectares of land. RAMP is preparing a separate design package for delivery to the ADB for construction of the river and canal works.



GRC laborers working on the Samar Kandian cross river weir in Balkh.